



Happy Memories of the Harvest when we gave tenners away.

This year at Christ Church we are collecting donations of food or money for Middlesbrough Foodbank for Sunday 6 October at 9.15am.

Harvest at St Oswald's will be on **Sunday 20 October at 11am** and the offering will be for the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institute.

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Malcolm's Musings

		OCTOBER		
4	Fri	1.45pm Christ Church Visitors in Coffee Lounge.		
6	Sun	Trinity 19 9.15am Harvest Parade; Ham Paul's Farewell Service		
		at St Oswald's.		
7	Mon	2pm Coffee Lounge Communion.		
8	Tues	9.45am Little Fishes in Church.		
9	Wed	10am Holy Communion in Christ Church.		
П	Fri	10.45am Marwood Harvest & Farewell to Rev Pev.		
13	Sun	Trinity 20 8am Holy Communion; 4pm Farewell to Paul & Karen		
		with a Songs of Praise Service in Christ Church.		
15	Tues	9.45am Little Fishes in Christ Church.		
16	Wed	10am Holy Communion in Christ Church.		
20	Sun	Trinity 21 (Foodbank Sunday) 9.15am Parish Communion; Ham		
		Harvest Service & Shared Lunch at St Oswald's; II.I5am Holy		
		Baptism at Christ Church.		
22	Tues	9.45am Little Fishes in Christ Church.		
23	Wed	10am Holy Communion in Christ Church.		
27	Sun	Trinity 22 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion;		
		4pm Cafe Church.		
29	Tues	9.45am Little Fishes in Christ Church.		

Please note that the 8am Holy Communion will now take place on just the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month.

Service in All Saints Church.

30

Wed

10am Holy Communion in Christ Church; 12 noon Captain Cook

Sadly, as well as Spire ending it also looks like Prayer for the Day will come to an end after four and a half years of daily streamed services, but its good to report that Sunday School is restarting, Big Kids are helping with children at Cafe Church, and the Youth Club has also just restarted on Sundays.

Prayer For The Day & Sundays

Every Weekday at 8.45am on Zoom & Facebook Live. Same link for Sundays too.

Daily Morning Worship ID: 895 1102 4740 Password: 450872

A Good-bye from Spire

It was back in 1991 when retired Gazette journalist, Malcolm Race, who had recently moved to Great Ayton with his wife Brenda, decided to start a monthly Church magazine. The joint Deanery publication *The Cleveland Churchman* had finished some years before. As we are the Church of England, it is good to have a regular means of communicating with the Parish, and Malcolm's style of information, interest and a little humour hit the mark. He is pictured here holding one of the early issues in 1992 that spoke of a new Vicar just appointed for Great Ayton. I wonder who that could be?



I had started a monthly Church magazine when I was vicar at St Martin's in Middlesbrough, so took no convincing about supporting Spire when I moved here, giving Malcolm my monthly letter, Registers, Diary and anything else of interest. Malcolm has a good supply of other contributors, and with information, news, faith items and a little humour, Spire proved to be very popular. It was originally A4 and run off in the office in the coffee lounge by the late Joan Rowland who printed off on the two photocopies there.



Malcolm was also assisted from the very beginning by Jean Goat who has organised deliveries ever since, and has personally taken copies to the Health Centre, waiting rooms and cafes to help get the message out. Some of our deliverers have also been with us from the beginning, so a big thank you to them all for 33 years of faithful service.

We moved to an A5 booklet format fairly quickly and the introduction of digital photography allowed for photos to be included. They were a little grainy to begin with, but have improved over the years..



In February 2003 I experimented with an electronic copy using some free software called PagePlus 4 from a Computer Magazine. I am still using PagePlus X8, despite new programs coming out. It has been a reliable workhorse over the years.

I started sending this out to any Church members and contacts through baptisms, weddings and funerals and the list grew to over 600+copies a month. When GDPR came out we moved to MailChimp that people can opt into, and that made life a lot easier. 324 copies go out, but many of these are forwarded to many others, and Spire is always

available on the website and on Facebook.

We moved to Quoin Publishing when our contracts ran out for the photocopiers, and they persuaded us to move to colour copies, which have been well received. I frequently receive emails from former Aytonians now living away saying how much they enjoy this taste of home.

Well, now its time to bow out, for whilst many want Spire to continue, no one wishes to take it on. Perhaps once I have gone things may come back in a new format, for as we know as Christians, sometimes you need death before Resurrection can happen.

Anyhow, many thanks to all who have supported Spire over all these years and those who have enjoyed reading it. It has been a pleasure to do, and my thanks to Malcolm, Race and Jean Goat for all their assistance over the years I have been Editor, which has been greatly appreciated.

Best wishes

Paul

Deanery Environment Service

The weather was kind, enabling us to have our second Deanery Environment Service outdoors at St Francis, Ingleby Barwick.

A great celebration giving thanks for the wonders of God's Creation and the work of the 14 registered Eco Churches in the Deanery. We now have 3 Silver awards - St Oswald's, Newton, St Francis, Ingleby Barwick and St Hilda's, Bilsdale.

We were encouraged to 'use our LOAF and bare fruit'

Geoff Jaques



Archdeacon Amanda & Area Dean Tessa being shown the St Frances, Ingleby Barwick Eco display.



John Stinson, Newton, with Rev Brenda Forrester from St Francis, & Carol McGee from St Hilda's Bilsdale.



A Bridge to Remember

Every year the village commemorates the sacrifice made by people from the village who did not return from the two world wars. Every year the on their way to the cenotaph we walk past another memorial commemorating the dead from the Great War.

In 1919 the foreman from the Monument Mines above Great Ayton built a bridge in memory of his colleagues who did not return from the conflict. The bridge that George Whitbread built stood for over a hundred years until it had to be replaced.

The Great Ayton Parish Council erected new a bridge which included two memorial panels depicting made scenes from the war and the village, The work art was undertaken by Daniel van Toorn and laser cut by Thompson's steel on Teesside. A section original mine railway stands by the bridge on which a panel is mounted with the names of the men George Whitbread wanted village "to the remember."

John Fletcher



A Great Wedding Venue



It was lovely to see the last wedding I took as Vicar of Great Ayton between John & Michelle Brennan, also used the Church Hall for their wedding reception.

The food and the bar were brought in, but they did all the decorations themselves with twinkly lights in addition (They show up better in the dark, but then you don't see the rest as well.)

I was especially taken by the mobile hanging above the top table, which was a decorated bicycle wheel - very ingenious.

When Robin Harmar organised the last major refurbishment of the Hall we had weddings in mind to provide a more reasonable cost venue, and it was good to see the hall used in this way.

Many thanks to the Hall Team - Robin, Mandy, Anne & Phil, for all that they do in keeping it looking good. See Mandy Johnson with any enquiries - details on back page.



Thanks for the Good Times

In the Church of England a vicar isn't just a chaplain to the congregation, but is there for all the Parish to call upon. All people living in the Parish are entitled to call upon their vicar for a Christening, wedding or funeral, or maybe some other event like illness, or sometimes even because something has unsettled them



At Saint Martin's I was visited one evening by a "Satanist" who wanted out, so called upon a colleague to join me in praying for him. When the said man saw a cross, he recoiled like Christopher Lee in the Dracula films. We took him into the Church to pray, and as soon as I mentioned the Holy Spirit he jumped up like he had been electrocuted, ran out of Church, and loped across the field. My colleague returned home to wife and family, and I returned to my vicarage with just Dudley, my black Lab for comfort. I can't say that was the best night's sleep I have had!

In Great Ayton I have been called upon to say prayers of peace and blessing on many homes in the village, and once I was asked to go to a pub in Stokesley where some had been playing with a Ouija board and unsettled something. I was glad for the Parish system and passed it back to my colleague there.

Most call outs have been far less dramatic, but sometimes very upsetting. In Middlesbrough I was called upon one Christmas morning after Church to attend the General Hospital to baptise a baby who was nearing the end of his life - not the thing you expect to do before you sit down for Christmas lunch. Thankfully today the Hospital Chaplains pick up most of this sort of work, but I have been called out here to families who have had a stillbirth and also baptised some.. I know the words by heart of the baptism service as I used them for my own son at the

RVI shortly after his birth, thinking that this was the end. I mention those situations first as they are so firmly printed in my subconscious. Indeed, I can still see all of David's nurses in Ward 3 North and they don't look a day older!

I have always found dealing with terminal illness and death to be the most draining of experiences in ministry, but one of the greatest privileges. Thankfully these are the rare occasions, but you never forget them.



In the Covid year of 2020 I took 84 funerals (50 at Great Ayton and 34 at Stokesley as they were in vacancy) yet it's not Covid that I remember, for in that year I took 3 funerals of people much younger than me who shouldn't have died. One took their own life, one was misdiagnosed because everyone assumed Covid, and the third was killed in a road accident when a driver came around the bend on the wrong side. Five children lost a parent. I can still see those children in my mind's eye at the funerals, and the grief on their faces.



Every loss of a loved one brings sadness, but I hope in those situations I have always been able to bring something positive and some comfort to show that God's church loves them. I have only once shed tears whilst taking a funeral, which ironically the family were rather touched by, but have shed so many tears whilst writing the addresses beforehand that it amazes me that my computer keyboard still works! I have a huge respect for those who deal with these issues all the time - medical staff, funeral directors, emergency services, for they certainly sap your emotions. May I also give a special mention to Michael Rea, our village Funeral Director, who friendship and support has always been valued, and Great Ayton has benefited much from this partnership.



Thankfully the job of a vicar has lots of highs too. Every issue of Spire contains the Register section of baptisms and weddings, and I have hugely enjoyed all of those, bringing magic tricks, puppets and audience participation into the service. These skills were late coming as I didn't do them as a curate or vicar of St Martin's, but evolved from doing school assemblies.



Back in the 2010s the Church of England launched the Wedding Project to seek to bring more Church weddings back to Churches, so I attended wedding fayres as well as hosting three in our Church Hall. We saw our weddings grow hugely until we peaked in 2016 with 23 at Saint Oswald's Church and 18 at Christ Church - both Churches individually being in the top 5% of churches nationally for

weddings! Saint Oswald's was particularly blessed through weddings gaining many members of the congregation and PCC, and our Treasurer and Synod member today both came through weddings.

That level of weddings wasn't sustainable long term, but was much appreciated by the Treasurers at the time. Besides in 2016 I had already thought about giving help to Nunthorpe when their vicar left, as it had been a hard time for all. When Bishop Paul asked me if I would look after them and become Priest in Charge I already knew my answer. 2017 was another very busy year, for whilst weddings had gone down here, there were weddings, funer-



als and baptisms at Saint Mary's. It was a very, very, busy year, but one I hugely enjoyed. My most memorable day was Easter Day when I presided and preached at our 8am Service, preached at the 9.15am before going to Saint Mary's to preach



at their 10am service, then ended back at Saint Oswald's at 11am to preside and preach there.

I have been going into Marwood School every Friday morning for 30 years, trying to find something visual to catch their attention. In 2003 David Boase moved from Kirkby to Swainby, and in 2004 he moved to America to work. Richard Rowling also moved from the

Ingleby Greenhow group in 2003, so we had several Church schools vacant in the Deanery, so I offered to go into the schools. I went into Marwood, Ingleby Greenhow and Kirkby schools weekly, Swainby fortnightly and Roseberry every three weeks sometimes doing 5 assemblies a week. I tried magic tricks, but they were expensive, so then moved on to large puppets that I could re-use and had a study full. Now we have downsized I am down to just 22! When Hannah started at Stokesley School and was



asked if she was related to "Rev Pev", she replied "Yes, he's my uncle!":) The puppets have been out on many occasions from Odin's Glow at Newton under Roseberry when we had over 3,000 people visit Saint Oswald's in four evenings. They have been at St George's Day Parades, and for several years they introduced Carols on the Green. The first time Angela the angel came out, who sounds (hopefully) just like Mrs Doubtfire, Peter Greenwell came running around from behind the platform to see what was wrong with the microphone!



I have taken the puppets, wallpaper rolls and magic trick around many groups in the area, always seeing it as a justifiable use of my time, for bringing people together and getting across some Christian message in a fun way must be good.

In 2007 my life changed again when I encountered my inner woman when Margaret Connelly invited me to be the Dame in the Bradley School of Dance annual Panto. After

doing it my only complaint was that she hadn't asked me earlier. I've been Widow Twankey, Dame Trott, Nurses and numerous Queens, as well as Scrooge, Fagin, Daddy Warbucks and Captain Hook. I will miss it this year after 16 different productions.

Life at Christ Church and Saint Oswald's has been good, for as well as all the regular Sunday Services they have been all the extras over the years from Get Up With God, Love in a Box, Christingles, Christmas Carol Services, Lent Groups, Confirmation Classes, Cafe Church, Parades, Eco Services, All Age Services, Marwood School Services, All Saints Summer Services, Saint Oswald's Day Services and many more.

I was Chairman of Marwood School Governing Body for 27 years, but decided to step down when I discovered that the mother of the vice chair, Paul Foster, was at school with me in Redcar! I must say that over the years I have enjoyed very much my contact with the schools, especially Marwood School.





It has been great as the vicar of Great Ayton also to support so many village events, from the annual Captain Cook Service, Remembrance Sundays, Carols on the Green, village fetes, and once the Church team came second in the Tug of War!

There were two surprises in my latter years as vicar. The first was being asked to

be a Training Incumbent to Jane Robson, who had also been placed here for a Reader placement. It was a challenging time as Jane arrived in the midst of Covid , so nothing was as it had been. She was certainly given a good training in IT!

Then with just a year to go - well I knew that even if you didn't back then - I was invited to be the first ever Vicar of Great Ayton & Newton under Roseberry to be a Canon of York Minster. My last appearance will be for the Consecration of the new Bishops of Whitby and Selby on Thursday

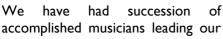


10 October at 11am in York Minster. It will be a great occasion and Church members are invited too. Why don't you pop along?

So many things mentioned so far, and I haven't even begun to mention particular people, but how on earth do you mention names when you could so easily miss

someone out. There are so many in 32 years.

There have been lots of fantastic people along the way at both Churches doing all sorts of tasks. We have had great Churchwardens, Treasurers and Church Officers, generous and outward looking PCCs, and always a willingness to reach out and help other Parishes.



worship, playing the organ and training the choir to sing so beautifully.

Finally to say thank you to the Parish Staff with all their gifts and talents who could just get on with tasks and could always be trusted to keep up the Ayton standards when helping out elsewhere.



Hannah's Christening Day

Well, now well into our 32nd year here and our time has now come to an end. It has been a privilege to be Vicar of Great Ayton with Easby and Newton under Roseberry and to bring our family up in this community, and whilst we no longer live here, it doesn't mean that we stop loving and caring for you all. We are just down the road in Nunthorpe, but I have assured the Archdeacon that I won't be getting in the way of my successor, but near enough if needed.

I hope the appointment is made sooner rather than later, and ideally be someone with a young family as we were when we came.

I will be applying for Permission to Officiate (PTO), like Geoff has got, and will be helping out in some of the local Parishes, as well as looking to develop new hobbies, and wear off some of the inches acquired over these last months.

Thank You all, and may God continue to have His hand on our Churches. Paul

In The Vacancy ...

During the vacancy, Jon Dean and Geoff Jaques will be covering Baptism, Weddings and Funerals.



Rev'd Jon Dean Weddings & Funerals jondean@cantab.net



Rev'd Geoff Jaques
Baptisms
Email.
jaques | 32@gmail.com



Or Message Mandy 01642 722665 gapo1876@outlook.com

Praise Him in the Psalms

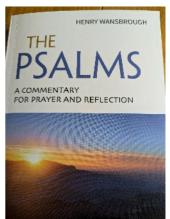
The book of Psalms is an anthology of Hebrew religious hymns for worship. Psalms encourage praise to God for who he is and what he has done. They are also the prayer book of the church; they express many moods, reflect many situations and fit many different occasions.

The psalms were the prayers of Jesus and can become our prayers as well. We will use a book published by BRF as an aid to our exploration. If you would like a copy please let me know.

Our discussions will begin in the Coffee Lounge on Wednesday October 2nd starting with refreshments at 3:15 and finishing at 4:30.

All are welcome - if you get a chance please let me know beforehand that you'd like to come.

Geoff Jaques





Giving What's Right - Not What's Left.

If we don't give our support to Church in a regular and planned way by either Bankers Order or Weekly Envelopes and just rely on when we attend, we may be shocked as to find that we give far less than we think. If you want to start a Bankers Order, see our Treasurers, and for envelopes at Ayton see lean Goat (Pictured left) 01642 723 274.

Notices and News

Paul & Karen's Final Services Our final services before we retire will be on Sunday 6th October at Saint Oswald's Church at I Iam, and Sunday 13th October at Christ Church at 4pm.

If anyone wishes to be associated with a leaving Gift for Paul and Karen you can contribute via BACS to *Great Ayton PCC*, Sort Code 09-01-55 Account No: 37616705 with "Leaving Gift" as a reference.

Or you can hand direct to Ken Taylor, Treasurer or Rosemary Wheway & Helen Land, Churchwardens or Mandy in the Church Office.

CHURCH HALL 200 Club

AUGUST 2024 Winners				
£20	13 Mary Rogers			
£20	11 Betty Manton			
£20	7 Marina Charlton			
£10	62 Ann Whittaker			
£10	2 Liz Kirkpatrick			

If you would like to join the Church Hall 200 Club, and maybe become a lucky winner as well as helping raise funds for improvements and equipment, its only £24 a year.

Subs for the next year are due in November.

To Subscribe, contact either Julie Bourke juliebourke@hotmail.com or Karen Peverell karen.peverell@btinternet.com

Baptisms - the First and the Last





The photo above with a very young looking vicar was from my very first Christening service when I became Vicar in 1993 and features Thomas Reevell, with parents Dave and Carole and big brother James.

The last Christening I have taken as Vicar of Great Ayton, also features Thomas Reevell, the uncle of Sylvie Conway, daughter of Sarah and Will Conway whom I married last year.

The week before I took my penultimate Christening, with Imogen Reevell, daughter of big brother James and wife Becky, whom I had also married several years ago. There in the photo is Great Grandmother Jean, whose husband's funeral I took last year. How amazing that I started and finished with the same family after





DYA LECT

In case the new Vicar isn't a native of Yorkshire, this handy phrase guide may help them understand the locals.

ALLAVTERAVSUM I need to go to the shops ATELDIM BURREEDIDINT LISSEN He didn't take any notice

ABITASUMMAT A small gift

ASTHEGORRIT WIYU Have you brought it with you?

ALAN DROVER A Jeep

BETTY NAUCES A local hobby

CUMFORUS ARFASTATE TUMORRER

Will the taxi pick us up in the morning?

CALLY NOW & FERNY SCOTTAGES Local place names

DUNNOW I can't help you

EEZGOINOME He's had enough

EEZGORABOBATOO He's well off

EEZEZITINTIZ He's says it isn't his

BURABERRITIZ But I bet it is

EEZGONERGERIT He needs to look out

EEZGORIZ ATOAM He hasn't brought his with him

GERITETTEN Will you please eat your meal

GERROFFIT Leave it alone

INTITOT Rather warm, isn't it

MEKIMPURRIZATON He's going to catch his death

TASNT AD NOWT DUNNATIT FORAGES It is in bad repair

OOSEEWI Who's that with him?

From the Registers

Holy Baptism

18 August Lottie Mary Woodward-Turner

25 August Hattie Margot Maggiore
 14 September Imogen Lily Reevell
 Louis Michelino Di-Niro

22 September Sylvie Elizabeth Conway

Holy Matrimony



31 August John Brennan & Michelle Davies

Funerals & Memorial Services

5 September Bill Davies

Services in Magenta took place at Saint Oswald's, Newton under Roseberry.

Parish website
Church Office e-mail
Diocese of York
Stokesley Deanery
A Church Near You

www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk gapo1876@outlook.com www.dioceseofyork.org.uk www.stokesleydeanery.org.uk www.acny.org.uk

Malcolm's Musings - from September 2017.

A reporter suggested to Lord Hawke, captain of Yorkshire CC in their glory days, after bad fielding in a match, that the players must be suffering from a disease. "Yes, replied Lord Hawke, "but it is not catching."



Two elderly locals were chatting during a county cricket match. "You played any cricket, Bert?" asked one. "No," replied Bert. My eyesight was never good enough. Done a bit of umpiring, though."

Among many memories recalled recently about the Dunkirk evacuation in 1940, was one about a soldier who, wounded, managed to get on board an Isle of Man steamer in the harbour. He headed for the bar, not unreasonably, to be told by the barman: "Sorry, sir, we don't open till we sail."

Australian police described their discovery of £500m worth of drugs hidden in bra inserts as one of the country's biggest drug busts.

"I said to the gym instructor: "Can you teach me to do the splits?" "How flexible are you?" he asked. I said: "I can't make Tuesdays." - Tommy Cooper

A church in Herefordshire some time ago invited volunteers to abseil down its 100ft tower in aid of church funds. The event was sponsored by a local firm of undertakers.

"More than 500 beggars in the Bangledeshi town of Sailkupa have formed a union to ,press for a higher rate of alms." - Newspaper report.

And now its goodnight from me, and goodnight from him.

Paul & Malcolm - Past Editors of Spire

The Parishes of Great Ayton with Easby and Newton under Roseberry

Services

Christ Church, Great Ayton

Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion (BC	P) 2nd & 4th Sundays
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9.15am Parish Communion Live on Zoom & Facebook. 4.30pm Cafe Church (2nd & 4th Sundays of month)

Tuesday 9.45am Little Fishes Toddler Service (School Term time only)

Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer - every week

At Saint Oswald's, Newton under Roseberry

Sunday 11.00am Holy Communion on 1st & 5th Sundays of the month

All Age Service on 3rd Sunday of the month (No Service on 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month)

Queries to Churchwarden, Chris Stinson cmstinson3@yahoo.co.uk

Baptisms, **Banns and Weddings** can be arranged.

See details on Page 16 Contacts

Vicar	Vacant after 13 October
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Curates Rev'd Geoff Jaques 01642 722979 01642 722649 Rev'd Jon Dean Licensed Lay Dr Nick Land 01642 778076 Ministers (LLM) Margaret Lewis 01642 722628 Peter Titchmarsh 01642 724153 ALM - Pastoral Rosemary Wheway 01642 722451

Organist Andrew Blair blair37@btinternet.com Churchwardens Dr Helen Land 01642 778076

Rosemary Wheway 01642 722451 PCC Treasurer Ken Taylor 01642 722400 01642 724316 Safeguarding Mary Mason

Gift Aid Sec. Ynez Clarke 01642 723181

Church Hall Office

For Church Hall bookings, please contact the Church Office Email: gapo 1876@outlook.com Tel 01642 722 665

Secretary available on Monday, Thursday & Fridays 9am - 12 noon (For services or pastoral matters, please contact Revd Ion Deab)