

Spire Newsletter



NEWS FROM THE PARISHES OF
GREAT AYTON WITH EASBY &
NEWTON UNDER ROSEBERRY
Summer Issue no.4 :
for June, July and August 2025



Photo: Martin Simmons

The **ARCHBISHOP OF YORK**, Stephen Cotterill, kindly came to Christ Church on Good Friday to lead our meditations on the Cross and at the close shook hands with our congregation.

Welcome to Summer *RED* is the colour of **WHITSUN**

JUNE 8TH is WHITSUNDAY, also called PENTECOST from the Greek for 50, as it comes fifty days (if counting inclusively) after Easter Sunday.

The colour RED symbolizes joy and the fire of the Holy Spirit. Ministers wear red vestments on Whitsunday and many in the congregation wear red as well. Whitsunday in Italian, "Pasqua Rossa," means "Red Easter."

According to the Acts of the Apostles "...suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where the disciples were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit."

*Shortly afterwards Peter, inspired, addressed the people nearby and 3,000 of them asked to be baptised; so Pentecost is often considered the **Birthday of the Church**.*

Now, isn't that Quite Interesting?

ALL SAINTS CHURCH the oldest and only Grade 1 listed building in Great Ayton is now open to the public. Normal opening times are from Tuesday to Sunday between 1.00p.m. and 4.00p.m. until the end of October, depending on the availability of guides. *But also note:*

Saturday 12th July at 7pm: Concert by violinist Benjamin Baker
"Exploration – inspired by the spirit of James Cook".

June 1st (and on the first Sundays of July, August and September) **at 6pm:**
Gentle, contemplative Taizé-style worship for everyone, with sung and spoken prayer, silence, and time to reflect.

At the end of August: Summer Songs of Praise



Interested in these events?

More details within....

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HEARTWARMING NEWS FROM ST.OSWALD'S

We read, in this year's Annual Report, from the Treasurer: "I look around and it's heartwarming to see so much generosity and selfless giving not only financially but also time and energy. St. Oswald's church may not be the biggest church, but it touches many lives through its giving. There are many charities that we donate to through weddings (although there have not been as many weddings as in previous years), baptisms, church services (eg. Harvest). St. Oswald's always gives large amounts to local charities at Christmas. The church also gives generously to York Diocese throughout the financial year."



And the Wardens write of their First Prize: "On Bluebell Sunday we planted two Buddleias in the church yard. These will help to attract butterflies and other pollinators to our award winning church yard. We also instigated a new mowing regime. This will allow for greater biodiversity by allowing wildflowers to grow rather than being cut down. Because of our churchyard management we won first prize for churchyard of the year, and we also achieved our **Silver Eco Church Award**. Congratulations to John Stinson and all who help in looking after this beautiful space. Hopefully we will achieve gold status soon."



Two spotted flycatchers were spotted using the church grounds to catch small insects. These birds are on the R.S.P.B. red list as their numbers have declined 88% since the 1970s in the U.K.

St. Oswald's Eco Church News

John Stinson writes: "The Spring weather has resulted in warm sunny days with well above average temperatures across the whole country. Spring flowers and tree blossom have seen the emergence of insects in larger numbers than is normal for this time of year. We have also seen the arrival of house martins, sand martins and swallows. In the next couple of weeks swifts will return and hopefully take up residence in the recently installed swift boxes in the village. At St. Oswald's we are hoping that the spotted flycatchers will return and take up residence in the letter bird box within the church grounds."

Our Eco planning at St. Oswald's for this year includes a visit from the children of Marwood Infant School to the church grounds in June, to carry out a "Mini Beast" survey, as well as studying the flowers and grasses. The pupils and staff will explore the grounds following a pre visit activity session within the school, with a follow up session later. The 32 pupils and staff will hopefully have a rewarding day and be able to develop their findings back in the classroom.

Church grounds are great places to explore nature because of their quiet location and are often referred to as "God's Golden Acre." We are looking forward to further develop our range of activities with other groups and organisations, as we expand our Eco Church programme."

Violin Concert by Benjamin Baker

Exploration
– inspired by the
spirit of James Cook

Saturday 12th July 7pm
All Saints Church



- ❖ No interval
- ❖ Music by: Bach, Perkinson, Winkelman, Margetic, Farr
- ❖ Refreshments served after the concert
- ❖ Ticket Price £12.50 (in aid of All Saints Funds)

Star New Zealand violinist Benjamin Baker, a regular performer at the North York Moors Chamber Music Festival, presents an exciting and imaginative programme which pays tribute to Great Ayton's most famous son. Bach's unparalleled music for solo violin is blended with music by living composers, inspired by Maori storytelling, in a thrilling concert which, following in the footsteps of Cook, celebrates the coming together of the Old World and the New.

Tickets available from:

The Discovery Centre

Ken Taylor: ekrecess133@gmail.com

Frank Harrison: frankharrison83@hotmail.co.uk

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OUR REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

Christ Church, Great Ayton

Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (2nd & 4th Sundays)
9:15am Parish Communion with choir (every Sunday)
4:30pm Café Church (2nd & 4th Sundays)
Monday 2.00pm Coffee Lounge Communion (1st Monday)
Tuesday 9.45am Little Fishes (not during school holidays)

All Saints Church, Great Ayton

Wednesday 10.00 Holy Communion (BCP) (Summer season only)

St Oswald's Church, Newton under Roseberry

Sunday 11.00 Holy Communion with hymns (1st & 5th Sundays)
All Age Service (3rd Sunday each month)



Taizé

6 pm in All Saints Church
on the first Sunday of each month:
June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7

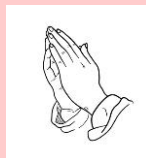
Taizé style worship is inclusive and contemplative. It incorporates silence, sung and spoken prayer, readings from the Bible and time to reflect.

All are welcome, please invite a friend

Prayer

Margaret Lewis writes:

Prayer is at the heart of our faith journey – as Disciples of Jesus. When we travel together, we support and encourage each other.



- the **Christ Church Prayer and Discipleship Board** (a work in progress!) hopes to show resources that may be useful on our way.
- we hope people will be able to share anything that they have found helpful and inspirational.
- is there something that you would like to share?
- **"Time to Pray": we meet 9.30am every Thursday at All Saints** - for Sentamu Prayers, silence, and intercession – in the beauty of nature and a place where the people of our village have worshipped God for many centuries.
- we would love to have you join us!
- is there someone or something that you would like us to pray for? requests may be placed in the box by the Prayer Board – and will be prayed during our "Time to Pray."



Little Fishes

Rosie Lovell writes:

I'm delighted to announce that **Emma Anderson** from Marwood Primary School will be leading Little Fishes from September.

She will of course be supported by our super team of volunteers. A huge thank you to Marwood for ensuring the future of our group.

Little Fishes is a group for 0-5 year olds and their parents/ carers, meeting every Tuesday (term time) at 9.45am in Christ Church.



Easter Flowers

Marina Charlton writes:

Our Easter flowers have been very much appreciated by both congregations and visitors alike. This year we went for a more pastel shaded theme.

We are only seven ladies in the flower guild and all work very hard to achieve this result and another one or two helpers would be most welcome and appreciated. (Please contact Marina Charlton.)

The flowers are all funded by sponsors; without this the church wouldn't look so splendid. We thank all the people that have sponsored these flowers throughout the year.



Photos: Rodney Wildsmith

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WILL YOU HELP OTHERS TOO?

Lizzi Fox is organising a sponsored walk for pupils at Stokesley School at the beginning of September and several of our youngsters from **Cafe Church** will be participating. How about sponsoring them – or even having a walk yourself? Lizzi has sent us these further details:

Step by Step: Stokesley School Students Walk for Clean Water

As part of our mission to serve others both near and far, we'd like to share a wonderful initiative taking place in our local community – and invite you to be a part of it, especially as some of our youth members are taking part.

Stokesley School, in partnership with Stokesley Rotary Club, is raising money for the charity **Village Water** (www.villagewater.org), working in rural parts of Mozambique and Zambia, helping schools gain access to something we often take for granted: clean water, safe toilets, and hygiene education. For many children in these communities, the lack of clean water and proper sanitation affects not just their health, but also their ability to attend school regularly. That's why Stokesley School is supporting Village Water's "Sanitation for Schools" project, which aims to bring lasting change to schools in need.

To help raise funds and awareness, the school community has set itself a challenge: to collectively travel **7,000 miles** – the distance between Stokesley and a school in the Mumbwa district of Zambia. Every student from Years 7 to 10 has pledged to cover a distance of their choice – between 10 and 100 miles (and some even more!) – through a range of physical activities. Whether it's walking, running, cycling, dancing, swimming, or even playing football, they're putting their energy to good use.

How You Can Support Them:

We're reaching out to our church community to support these young people in their efforts. If you have a connection to a student at Stokesley School - or know one of our café church attendees - please consider sponsoring them. Every contribution, no matter how small, helps to make a real difference.

This is more than just a fundraiser – it's a chance for our young people to see the power of community, compassion, and collective effort in action.

Let's encourage them and show them that their kindness and commitment can change lives.

Thank you for your support, prayers, and generosity.

Lizzi Fox 07809696300 efox@stokesley-alt.uk

Link for fundraising: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/stokesley-school-challenge>

Link to the Rotary Club's Walk for Water, should you like to take part yourself: <https://www.rotarywalk4water.co.uk/>

CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS:

During the vacancy, please contact

For Funerals and Weddings:

Rev'd Jon Dean 07388010574
jon@christchurchgreatayton.onmicrosoft.com

For Baptisms:

Rev'd Geoff Jaques 01642 722979

For Safeguarding issues:

Mary Mason 07788 643930

For all other matters, to the Churchwardens:

Alison Collins 07876 152022

Rosemary Wheway 07979 312152

Christine Stinson 07768 535606

Steve Fellowes 07888 762324

Church Office: 01642 722665
gapo1876@outlook.com

Our website address:

<https://www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk>

Our Facebook pages:

Christ Church, Great Ayton;

St Oswald's, Newton under Roseberry;

All Saints Church, Great Ayton;

Christ Church Choir, Great Ayton

Little Fishes also has a Private Group on Facebook for parents and carers of pre-school children; you can request to join it.

The NEXT issue of this *Spire Newsletter* is planned for the end of August. If you would like to submit an article, news or details of events likely to interest our readers or merely offer suggestions for future possible issues, you are welcome to send them to the interim editor, Stephen Whitehead, at: stephen.whitehead1948@gmail.com.