

LIVING WATERS



**Who can stand before his cold? Then He sends His Word, it all melts
He sends His winds and the waters flow. Psalm 147: 17 - 18**

Encouraging Enabling Challenging
in the Tynedale Methodist Circuit

WINTER 2021/2022

Dear friends

Every season has its natural beauty and winter is some people's favourite, especially perhaps if there are clear blue skies over a snow-blanketed landscape. I don't want to worry or depress you, but I think we all know that sadly climate change may make those a thing of the past!

There's no escaping that we face some really big challenges. They will need us to make equally big changes to how we live. As well as climate change, we continue to live with the pandemic and the uncertainty it causes. We're thankful for vaccines and treatments, which have made a massive difference, but the pandemic is still with us and life will never be the same, not least for those who have lost loved ones.

It's good to remember that, though it might feel endless, suffering doesn't go on forever. We have hope, because 'our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us' (Romans 8:18). This is our faith. Note: it is much more than wishful thinking. It is not blind faith (the kind that has no evidence to support it). It arises not from mere optimism, but from confidence in God, who in Jesus entered into our history as one of us, who banished the darkness of death to rise again.

Glory – an end to all the bad stuff - is what we are confidently expecting. We expect it not because we trust in ourselves, our politicians and our scientists, but because we trust in the One who won an eternal and ultimate victory and will make all things new.

The challenges we face are enormous, yet we hope. We must do all within our powers for the world and its people and remember the One who has power to do immeasurably more than we can ask or even imagine. Someone once said, we should act as everything depended on us, and pray as if everything depended on God.

Yours, in Jesus' name

Rev Paul Dunstan

JACQUI AND RUTH ACCREDITED AS LOCAL PREACHERS

Following the profiles of Jacqui Cameron and Ruth Johnson as Local Preachers Under Training in the Summer 2018 edition of Living Waters, they have now been welcomed at a special service after five years of committed study.



The service finally took place at Prudhoe Methodist Church on Saturday 18th September, following earlier postponements due to Covid restrictions.

It was opened by Rev Jenny Porterpryde who said: "Ruth and Jacqui have been a hugely important part of our church family for a long time. When they said they were going to start the preachers' training we were excited and delighted. It is so lovely to be able to share this occasion and to celebrate together."

The new preachers were admitted by the Circuit's Superintendent Minister, Rev Paul Dunstan, who was joined by Ann Worthy, a mentor for Jacqui and Ruth throughout their training period. Ann said: "The church has examined their knowledge, confidence and conviction. On the recommendation of the Local Preachers' Meeting, they have been approved by the Circuit Meeting for admission to the Office of Ministry of a Local Preacher."

Rev Paul Dunstan said: "Local preachers are called to be worthy in character, to lead God's people in prayer and praise, and to share in the Church's mission in the whole world. Jacqui and Ruth, yours is a responsibility rooted in the word of God. You will bring the message of salvation to all, in season and out of season. As you lead worship and offer good news to others, your own lives will be shaped and transformed."

The preacher at the service was Rev Alex Dunstan, while everyone present, from other Local Preachers to Circuit Ministers, church members and the families of Jacqui and Ruth, sent blessings for the future in their new roles.

Jacqui of Stocksfield and Ruth of Prudhoe spoke of their own respective callings, paid tribute to the people who have supported them along the way and expressed their excitement and dedication for what lies ahead.

A video of the service is now available on the circuit website (Local Preachers Service)



The life of a chapel which has been at the heart of a Tyne Valley community for 143 years was celebrated at a special service in October.

The Thanksgiving Service, to mark the closure of Barrasford Methodist Church, was led by Deacon Anne Taylor and supported by Superintendent Minister, Rev Paul Dunstan.

Attended by about 60 people, the service reflected on well over a century of worship and community life at the Victorian building, which has included Sunday school, weddings, baptisms and funerals.

Rev Paul said the chapel had loyal and committed members, but no longer had the numbers to make it viable. He added: "Barrasford chapel is a wonderful place with a proud history. It has served its community for generations and holds treasured memories for many people.

"Numbers at Barrasford have decreased and the church council felt it was no longer possible to continue, and a decision has been made to cease worship. While marking this sad closure, the service was to celebrate the history and the successes of a church which has stood at the heart of community life for almost a century and a half. We want to thank all Local Preachers and Ministers for their faithful ministry over the years. To the people of Barrasford and surrounding areas, thanks to all who have worshipped at the chapel, attended Sunday school and other events at this special place."

Barrasford Methodist Church was built to seat 160 people at a cost of £320 in 1877 and opened during what was reported as a "joyous occasion" in May the following year. Constructed to serve a strong Methodist community, the chapel was unusual among Methodist churches in having a bell to call people to worship. It hosted a special service at the end of the First World War over a century ago in 1918, yet despite the passing of time, retained its original style and character.

The earliest reference to Methodism in Barrasford dates back as far as 1828, with the formation of a Wesleyan Society through what was known as the Wark Mission, with a full-time local preacher supported by Methodists from Newcastle.

Joseph Tulip



Our last service on Sunday October 17th. was one of thanksgiving at Barrasford Chapel. Its service to the community unfortunately coming to an end.

We had a full chapel with people from the circuit, the village and beyond who came together to celebrate this final service. The service was led by our minister Deacon Anne with the Rev Paul Dunstan welcoming the congregation and giving the bidding prayers.

Malcolm Johnson, Charlie Beattie and Richard Dodds read the lessons with Joan Patterson and myself sharing memories of the chapel, and of those who have gone before. Maurice and Michael Hepworth, late of Barrasford, spoke of their time attending the Sunday School and the impact it had on their lives. Maurice eventually becoming an Evangelist. Paul and George Charlton sung a duet; Derek Archer played three pieces on his accordion, stirring traditional hymns to which the congregation happily joined in.

After the service a tea was provided in the village hall, where memories and friendships continued. Thanks be to God for this memorable service, a fitting tribute to the chapel's witness over 143 years.

Gillian Scott

Church Mice

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Thank You God for sending Your Son on one glorious night to be born of a virgin, to live a perfect life and to die on the cross for my sins. Thank You that He rose from the dead three days later and that at Christmas and every Christmas we can celebrate the gift of eternal light through Jesus Christ. Amen
Anonymous

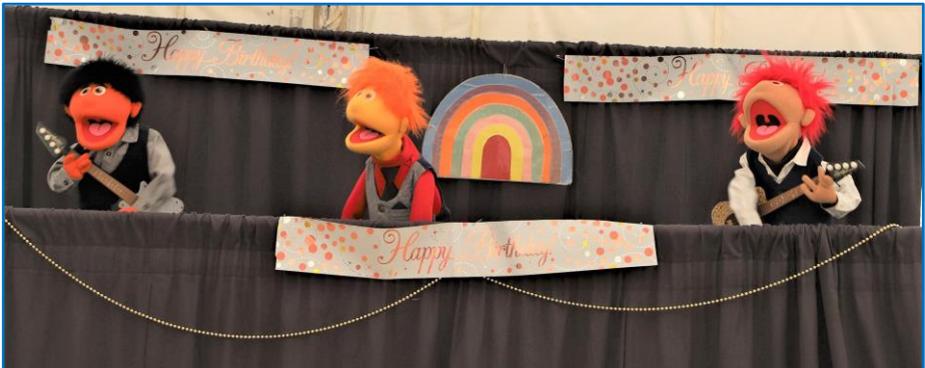
RENE BAILLIE CELEBRATES HER 100TH. BIRTHDAY

Rene joined Haydon Bridge Chapel when she moved to join her daughter at Allerwash from Sunderland nearly 25 years ago. Although she later moved to Humshaugh, she has been a member of Haydon Bridge for most of the time she has lived in Northumberland where she was a regular attender until she stopped driving. She was delighted that she could join in on Zoom bible studies during the lock-down period of the pandemic. Members of the circuit would remember her amazing artwork and crafts which she made available to support the chapels.

'Highly privileged and with the prerequisite double vaccination and negative lateral flow test, I attended Rene's 100th birthday party in the grand grounds of her home in Humshaugh on Sunday 5th September. 100 guests, including family, embroiderers, walking friends, village friends, church friends and other friends, heard the bells of St Peter's in Humshaugh ring out 100 times to launch a wonderful celebration for an amazing lady.

Rene enjoyed audiences with all her guests sat in turn around her on her staging in the main marquee, whilst delicious and attractive savoury food and cakes from the small marquee, and teas and coffees from the conservatory, were consumed at tables with chairs around the garden on the warm sunny afternoon.

Diana Bell compered the puppet show from the theatre in the main marquee and Deborah, Hannah and James behind the curtain, working the puppets, felt an instant good vibe from all guests as worship songs to Jesus dramatically sounded out with marvellous colour, costumes and instruments.



A specially written tribute poem confirmed Rene knew everyone's birthday and always sent a personalised card she carefully created in her craft room.

The ten strong ladies' choir 'Dark Sky Voices' entertained with crisp harmonised singing, including a rendition of 'Sing a Song of Sixpence' written by the choir mistress and performed in the Tower of London the previous week.

The parade of decorated umbrellas on stage was judged, then glasses of bubbly in hand, Marjorie, Rene's daughter, interrupted Rene's enquiry part way through just before she proposed a potted life history toast – "No Mum you have elderflower cordial: it is non-alcoholic!"

Rene stood to cut her 100th birthday cake to cheers from the guests, and such was the Baillie generosity, many guests were given tasty food parcels to take home. The 'no presents' birthday collection raised £2000 for PCDC charity providing education for children in Palestine.

My overall impression of all the festivities was one of pure joy and happiness – a landmark occasion for a remarkable lady, who then in the following weeks wrote to each of us individually thanking us with personal comments remembered from our conversations.

Thank you, Rene, and praise God for your 100 years of faithful witness to our Lord Jesus Christ'.



Jane Dixon

HOPE FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S CHILDREN

(An update on this charity centred on Prudhoe Methodist Church)

South Africa continues to have high levels of Covid infections, and they have continued with periodic lockdowns. The area in which we work has also been affected by a major insurrection with significant looting and burning of shops & businesses. This has caused increased unemployment and food shortages.

Our Outreach fund has supported an increasing number of rural Crèches who have increased their feeding programmes to combat the effect of Covid 19. (One is feeding 350/400 children twice a week). Another new feature of our work has been the development of an Education & Training programme to support young adults leaving Rehoboth Care.

Rehoboth Village is full with 80 children and have managed to avoid Covid cases. They have the benefit of having a school in the village.

Should you wish to support our Outreach to help more young people leaving care our Bank Account details are. HFSAC. Sort Code 53 50 46 Account No 55512194, Ref: Outreach.

David Smith, Trustee

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal and The Real Advent Calendar – for Shaftoe pupils

For many years now, members at Haydon Bridge have collected and filled shoeboxes as part of this National Appeal, (obviously excluding 2020). These boxes contain (what may seem to us) very simple items, toothbrush, flannel, soaps, hat and scarf, soft toys and pens - things that most of our children in this country take for granted! From the various countrywide collection points at which these boxes are taken and checked, they are transported abroad to parts of Russia and Ukraine and other needy countries. We hope that the lives of 10 little ones' somewhere will be made brighter by receiving our gifts. Thanks to all who contributed towards this worthy cause.

Real Advent Calendars

If you remember in an earlier issue, we mentioned that through surplus Churches Together Messy Church Funds, we purchased 'The Real Easter Egg' for the pupils of our local primary Shaftoe School, these were very well received by the school who thanked us for our special gifts to the children. Someone suggested we do the same this Advent and purchase 'The Real Advent Calendar' for all who attend, which we have done. (These calendars each contain the Christmas Story Booklet) and once the individual calendars are suitably labelled from the three Churches in Haydon Bridge, they will be taken to the school. During our Service at Haydon Bridge on Sunday 31st October, Rev. Gareth Sherwood asked God's blessing on both these items while they were still with us.



Shoe Boxes

Real Advent Calendars

Kathleen Armstrong

MESSY VINTAGE

I have been very busy enjoying myself going to Messy Vintage on alternate Tuesday afternoons at half past two at Fourstones Methodist chapel. Basically, it is Messy Church, but for adults. We call it 'Together on Tuesday'. They have been led by our minister Deacon Anne Taylor.

There have been different themes, " Harvest", where I joined others making a frieze of blue cornflowers, red poppies and stalks of wheat stuck onto a large piece of paper. There were some small cards to colour in with appropriate Bible messages.

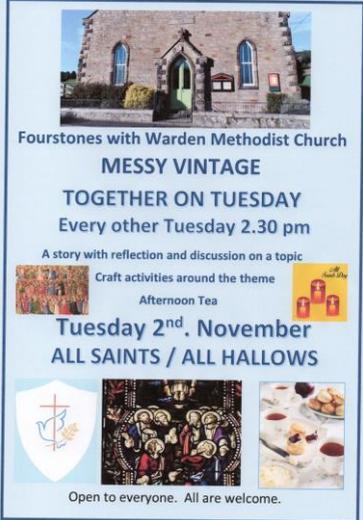
Another afternoon, after a prayer, a reflection and singing hymns, we drew our interpretation of "Bible Verses" after looking at other professional paintings. Our efforts were laminated to keep.

The theme for the 2nd. November was "Saints" and we drew shields and decorated them to celebrate "All Saints Day".

Next topic is "Follow the Light", all about sunflowers, can't wait for November 16th!

When we finish our craft or artwork, we have afternoon tea, very enjoyable and a lot of chatter. It is an opportunity to meet people, socialise and share God's word. You don't even have to join in the activities, just watch. All pencils, felt pens, scissors, paper and glue are provided, just turn up, you will be very welcome!

Magaret Bogie



Fourstones with Warden Methodist Church

MESSY VINTAGE

TOGETHER ON TUESDAY

Every other Tuesday 2.30 pm

A story with reflection and discussion on a topic

Craft activities around the theme
Afternoon Tea

Tuesday 2nd. November

ALL SAINTS / ALL HALLOWS

Open to everyone. All are welcome.



Exciting Times in the Allen Valley

Allendale



Catton



Keenley

A restructure of churches in the Allen Valley is enabling God's mission to be fulfilled in an exciting new way. The four churches at Allendale, Catton, Sparty Lea and Keenley have become one – Allen Valley Methodist Church – with one Church Council.

The new set-up includes morning worship at Allendale Chapel on the second, third and fourth Sunday of the month, but fellowship is taking place across the valley. Café Church is held at Catton once a month on the third Sunday afternoon of the month, with informal worship, different ways into prayer and the chance to discuss all things topical alongside homemade refreshments. Catton also hosts a Tea and Talk Testimony time once a month on a Thursday evening (and Saturday daytime during the winter months)

High Forest Praise takes place on the first Sunday of the month at Sinderhope Community Centre. This is hosted by the Sparty Lea Fellowship who provide an amazing tea!

Keenley is in the process of becoming a Festival Chapel, holding four festival services a year at Harvest, Christmas, Easter and the outdoor Camp Service. In the future, the Chapel hope to celebrate the Methodist Heritage with boards depicting its rich history. It is also hoped that the toilet and kitchen at Keenley will be updated, and passers-by on the neighbouring Isaac's Tea Trail will be able to pop into the chapel, while a 'Friends of Keenley Chapel' group will be formed.

Worship has ceased at Sparty Lea Chapel building, but the church has not ceased. It continues as a strong fellowship group, as well as their hosting of High Forest Praise and joining worship at other places in the Valley.

The restructure has concluded a two-year process during which congregations have been thinking about the way forward for God's mission in the Allen Valley. Rev Alex Dunstan said: "This has been discussed at length with the Church Stewards and all the Allen Valley congregations. "After much prayer, the most missional and forward-thinking opportunity for the Churches in the Allen Valley to serve God was to work together. "It was decided that by becoming one Allen Valley Methodist Church (with one Church Council) people would be free to take up mission opportunities because offices and finances would be shared, and we could work together as the Body of Christ in the Allen Valley." "The vision is to offer everything we do, not as separate chapels, but as the Allen Valley Methodist Church."

The use of technology will be explored in terms of both worship and connecting with others, while home groups and fellowship groups are important in each of the villages. Mission and outreach will be facilitated through Tea and Talk; High Forest Praise; Open the Book; Community Lunches and other small group and invitational events and services; and in ways not yet known, but in which God will lead.

Rev Alex continued: "Gifts, skills and talents will be used in spiritual growth, discipleship and mission, as we seek God's will for the way ahead in the Allen Valley. We want to build a church for now and for the time ahead to serve the folk of this area. "The Allen Valley congregations have prayed hard, listened to God and stepped out in faith. It is exciting times to see how God will work as we go forward together."

Christmas Concert in support of Acomb Chapel

Hexham Amateur Stage Society are performing a series of concerts around Hexham and local communities at various not for profit organisations to give back something back to the community, especially those affected by Covid. 'They will be upbeat, lively and full of energy'

One such concert, in support of Acomb and the chapel, is being held at **Acomb Village Hall on Friday 10th. December at 7.30pm**. Tickets @ £5 are available at the Queen's Arms Village shop (10.30 -2.30) or can be requested through Jim Laidlaw (604410) or Dorothy Neal (07801 265858)



PROFILE

Alison Clark

Head of Operations for Domestic Mission



The journey God has taken me on over the last few years is one I could never have expected.

In 2016, while working for the Hexham Methodist Churches as Children's Worker, I attended training on a school's assemblies programme called Open the Book. I loved the idea behind telling Bible stories to school children in a dramatic fashion and subsequently set up an ecumenical team to deliver the programme to the three First Schools in Hexham.

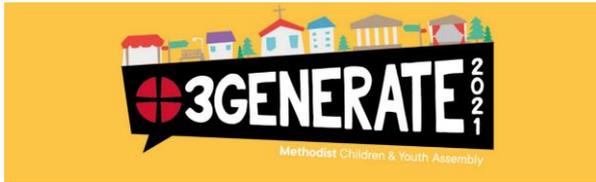


In 2017 the Bible Society, who run OtB, advertised for a National Training Manager based in Swindon. As I had been responsible for workforce development when I was Sure Start Lead in Newcastle, I decided to apply for the job. After interviews, I was accepted for the role. Bible Society proved to be an amazing place to work and the following year I was promoted to Head of Open the Book, a real privilege which gave me the chance to link with the 18,000 volunteers nationally on a regular basis. Then, earlier this year I was appointed Head of Operations for Domestic Mission. This includes Church Engagement, Navigating Trauma, Open the Book, our work in Wales, our Education and Catholic Scripture programmes.

When I applied for the job, Trinity's minister David Goodall told me that if I felt prompted by the Lord, I should push on the door and if the door opened, then it was God's plan. That approach has taken me on an exciting path over the last few years and I feel really blessed to be supporting God's mission of the Bible Society through my work as a result.

N.B. Alison is a member of Hexham Trinity and is still involved in local mission for children and families as a co-leader of the annual Scripture Union / Churches Together supported Hexham Holiday Club. John Martin





Four young people from Stocksfield Methodist Church took part in 3Generate (the Methodist Church Children and Youth Assembly) held at Birmingham NEC from 29th -31st October. The theme this year was being 'In Tune' with God and culminated with an opportunity to respond to God during the final worship session on Sunday morning, in terms of a personal covenant. The written covenants were symbolically placed in a physical boat (Peter's).



The event was organised as a town, with a park, Theatre Royale, Town Hall, games pitch, a 'wilderness' and even an inflatable chapel! 750 young people attended and there were so many events to choose from, worship, meditation, art, music, debate – it was full on – every minute and the food was fab!

Our group from Stocksfield was invited to be involved from the initial planning stages of 3Generate, in creating a specific venue, the Health and Wellbeing Centre. Not only were we listened to, but we were also encouraged and supported to contribute right through to delivery on the weekend itself. A great inclusive and enriching model! Of course, one of our suggestions, Therapy Dogs was the most popular event in Town! We slept in tents inside the NEC and even managed to fit in a midnight feast!

Thank you to all the adults who made it possible for us to attend, for your prayers and support. We would absolutely love to come and tell you about our experiences in person. Do ask us. If there are any young people in your churches, central or on the margins we would also love to encourage and support them in any way we can. Thank you from **Luca, Becky, Tilly and Vita**.

"3Generate 2021 has been a life changing experience for me. I have connected with God in a much stronger and deeper way than before. 3Generate led me to apply to be a Social Justice Youth Rep (and be successful) for the national Methodist Connexion, part of my covenant to let God work through me" **Luca Barwick-Plant**

If you would like to read more about this year's 3Generate please visit www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/children-youth-family-ministry/events-including-3generate/

Summary of Autumn 2021 Circuit Meeting 16th. September

- The Rev Jenny Porterpryde was appointed for a further year in the Circuit. Rev Jenny's reinvasion was met with a positive response and her appointment was extended until August 2023.
- The Circuit Invitation Committee was engaged in finding replacements for Rev Paul and Rev Alex, after it was announced that they would be leaving the Methodist Church at the end of August 2022. It was decided to replace these roles as they currently stand, applying for one Superintendent and one Presbyterian. The Chair of District had outlined his commitment to making both appointments a priority.
- The meeting heard that Conference had decided to increase the minimum number of trustees per church from six to 12. While this could be a challenge for some churches, it was agreed there were ways of making this work. A federation of churches, with several churches sharing one church council, was considered. Another possibility considered was for larger churches to work with smaller churches.
- It was agreed that Circuit would donate 15 percent of reserves to the Methodist Church's Pension Deficit fund. It followed a revaluation of the national fund last year which indicated a substantial shortfall. Conference requested that all districts, circuits and churches donated up to 15 percent of their reserves to address this deficit.
- Church Councils can now choose whether to register their buildings for same-sex marriage. Stewards and Ministers were advised to look at resources which are available on the Methodist Church website prior to Church Council meetings. With no timescale set, churches were encouraged to take time to make careful and considered decisions.
- The meeting acknowledged two new Local Preachers. The admission service for Jacqui Cameron and Ruth Johnson took place on 18th September at Prudhoe Methodist Church. A video of the service is now available on the Circuit website.
- Rev Paul was to write to several Local Preachers and Readers who have retired to thank them for their ministry – Margery Burgess, Brenda Mearns, Lesley Saxon, Ann Worthy, Margaret Weatherson, and Mo Lucas – and also to those who have resigned – Joyce Short, Mark Knowles, Nigel King, and Dougie Hogg. (Diane Wylie has also resigned since the meeting.)

➤ It was agreed to allow worship to cease at Barrasford Methodist Church and for the building to be sold. A Thanksgiving Service to mark the closure of the chapel and to celebrate its history took place on 17th October.

➤ The meeting heard that Richard Porter, of Prudhoe, had been accepted for training for presbyteral ministry and was due to commence his studies on Monday, 20th September. A card was to be sent to Richard offering everyone's best wishes and prayers.

Mrs Rene Baillie, of Haydon Bridge, celebrated her 100th birthday on 5th September – a card was to be sent to Rene.

Date of next meeting **9th December 2021 - 7pm on Zoom**

PRUDHOE AND STOCKSFIELD HOLIDAY CLUB 27 – 29 OCTOBER



Not even COVID-19 could prevent our Holiday Club going ahead during the schools' half-term although it did its best to upset the proceedings. Blessings to all our prayer warriors! The theme this year was Scripture Union's resource 'Rocky's Plaiice', a fish and chip café. ('Rocky' being Peter).

The themes focused on **Forgiveness** (Peter tells the children briefly about his life with Jesus); **Have Faith** (Peter and John healing the man at the Beautiful Gate) and **Tell** (Peter visits Cornelius and discovers that everyone in the whole world needs to hear about Jesus and then tell others).

We welcomed 30 5-7 year olds, 26 8-10 years olds, 5 Apprentice leaders, 2 teenage tech geniuses and over 9 at the pre-school drop in café.

The three days of activity culminated with a celebration party of fish and chips (thank you to Balls Fish Shop) followed by a 'potted' version of daily events for the families to enjoy. The fruits of everyone's labours are now with the Lord. The fun and blessings that the children received were equally measured by the enthusiasm and dedication of the volunteers from five churches – a total commitment to the mission and a total commitment to one another.

This is continuing as Churches Together are preparing for **The Christmas Journey** (29 November – 3rd December) inviting Year 2 children to travel back in time to that very first Christmas to meet all the characters from the biblical accounts of Jesus' birth and do a very simple craft to help them remember what they have learned.

Anne Chapman, Prudhoe

1ST. HEXHAM COMPANY BOYS' BRIGADE

The company, which is associated with the West End Methodist Church, has yet to restart its activities, having had to close for the pandemic. It is looking to resume in the New Year and is seeking people who feel called to join or support the team who run the programmes of this Christian youth organisation.



The company has been associated with the West End church for over 60 years. It restarted for a third time in January 2009 with a Junior and a company section. Once boys were eligible for the Presidents and Queen's badges, they became Seniors. An Anchors Section (5–7-year-olds) was being developed in 2019. Unfortunately, some of the leaders at that time may be unavailable in the New Year. The Company Captain, Mark Knowles, would be delighted to hear from anybody who feels they would like to be part of this youth ministry.



Seen here are members of the Junior Section (8–10-year-olds) with Terry Eccles, an Olympic Torch relay runner, who visited the company in 2012. Some of the boys here went on to gain their Queen's Badge making a total of 11 young people who gained this award since the company had been reformed. The toddler in the lower left of the picture had just joined BB before it was suspended.

Boys (and their Mum's & Dad's) have been asking when BB was going to restart. The company meets on a Friday evening at West End. Brigade Headquarters now supply themed activity packs relevant to each section which helps with programme planning. The sections join for devotions during a break time.

For anybody who would like to know more Mark can be contacted on 01434 344159 / 07557 794105 or hexham.bb@gmail.com

Hexham Trinity's Children's and Youth Workers seem to be keen make sure their jobs are secure. Congratulations to Isaac and Amy Webb on the birth of Roscoe on 28th. October, a brother to Silas. This follows Tara and Matt Barrick being blessed with little Lottie on 8th. January this year, a new sister for Phoebe.

‘Action for Children’ is a leading Methodist supported children’s charity helping vulnerable children and their families in the UK



Like most charities, Action for Children have suffered in their fundraising over the last year because of pandemic restrictions. The usual annual collection in July from Methodist churches was significantly reduced. This has affected the services they can offer.

Although the charity gets some money from government, local authorities and businesses, this kind of funding is not guaranteed long-term and is often restricted and can only be used for specific projects. They rely on individual donations to provide much of the support they give to children and young people.

Since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic, they have helped more than 20,000 children and young people with emergency support providing essentials that families could not otherwise afford. This includes food, resources for learning and play and home repairs and or furnishings.



The charity is currently running a **‘Be a Secret Santa for a vulnerable child’** campaign. Details can be found on their website www.actionforchildren.org.uk/secret-santa

Iceland Foods have a charitable foundation which is a lead partner of the Action for Children Secret Santa campaign. Shopping at this supermarket will also help the charity.

Dorothy Green



Christian
Music
Ministries

Roger Jones musical weekend at
Haydon Bridge, June 11th. – 12th. 2022
Participants needed!

Next year, Haydon Bridge Methodist church is looking forward to hosting a very special musical weekend led by Roger Jones and his team from Christian Music Ministries. Over the past forty years Roger has written over twenty Christian musicals which have been performed across the UK. We are excited that he is returning to Haydon Bridge with his team next June (Saturday 11th - Sunday 12th) to lead a musical workshop weekend for us. This is to learn one of his newest musicals 'Torn Curtain'. The musical is a series of eleven songs with narration between, which focus on the idea of the torn curtain and how, because of Jesus' sacrifice we can now come to God freely without any barrier.

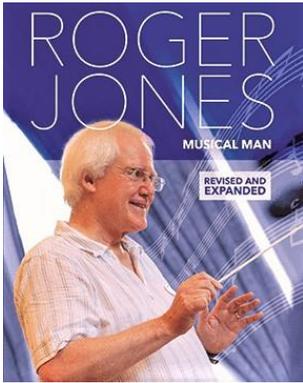
We are looking for choir members, soloists and narrators to take part in the weekend itself, but Roger will also be bringing some team members to help out. This really is open to anyone (churchgoer or not) who would like to take part, no matter your ability, and be part of a weekend of praise and fellowship. The weekend will end with a performance of the musical on the Sunday afternoon in front of an audience. The choir will be performing to a backing track supplied by Roger.

While the team can teach the singers/narrators from scratch on the weekend, a bit of preparation is always useful. We are hoping to have some practices for the choir in the new year at Haydon Bridge. Attendance at the practices isn't essential, you can just come for the weekend in June, (but we will need to order music for you in advance.)

We are also looking for someone to help with the running of these rehearsals. If you would like to have a go at leading choir practices, or wouldn't mind playing piano for these, we'd love to hear from you. (Roger will be leading the choir himself on the weekend).

If you are interested in taking part in the choir or as a narrator, please do get in touch, and we can let you know about rehearsal times in the new year and order you some music (there will be a small fee for this).

Lastly, if you are interested in being part of the organisation team, we are holding a meeting on Thursday 20th. January at 7pm in Haydon Bridge Methodist Church. Please do come along if you are interested in helping with this side of things.



A communion setting of the musical can be viewed on Roger Jones' website, www.cmm.org.uk
www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZqT2O6IE_s
This is slightly different to the version we will be doing, but it gives a good idea of the songs.

We are looking forward to welcoming Roger and his team and having a praise-filled weekend of music!

Deborah Bell
07990928976
clocktowerbells@hotmail.com

The English Music Festival are presenting three concerts at St Andrew's Church, Corbridge on Friday 10th December and Saturday 11th December. The final concert is with Hexham Antiphon Choir at 7pm. They will sing a cross-section of advent choral pieces reflecting the journey to Christmas - from the fall of man to the prophecy of the messiah, to the joyful celebration. There will also be traditional Christmas carols for audience participation. Haydon Bridge member and co-organiser of the concerts, James Bell, has written a piece specially for Antiphon's concert entitled 'The Prophecy' with words by Deborah Bell, also of Haydon Bridge.



Tickets for the concerts can be bought at www.englishmusicfestival.org.uk

James Bell

Boxing Day

On Boxing Day Corbridge Methodist Church will be the only one in the Circuit holding a service. If you couldn't get to your own church on Christmas Day or carol service, why not come to join us for the continued celebration of Christ's birth? Even if you have been to a Christmas service you will still be welcome to come along for an extended Christmas celebration. The service begins at 10.45am and will be conducted by Rev Marie Beard - see you then.



Tynedale
Methodist Circuit

Bellingham,
Falstone/Kielder, Wark
Fourstones with Warden,
Haydon Bridge
Deacon Anne Taylor

Hexham Trinity
with Slaley
Rev. Paul Dunstan

Hexham West End
Acomb
Rev. Gareth Sherwood

Riding Mill
Corbridge
Rev. Marie Beard

Haltwhistle
Allen Valley
Rev. Alex Dunstan

Wylam
Prudhoe
Stocksfield
Rev. Jenny Porterpryde

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Living Waters is co-ordinated by John Martin & Team for Tynedale Circuit. If you have any comments / suggestions / contributions / ideas / photos for the Spring 2022 edition, please send to: -

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