



St. Matthew's Church Newbottle

Autumn
2021

*You are the light of the world.
A city on a hill cannot be hidden
Matthew 5 v14*

Parish of St. Matthew's Newbottle Diocese of Durham

Church Services

Sunday

9:45am Family Worship & Holy Communion

Wednesday

10.00am Holy Communion

Please see church website or Facebook page for latest information.

Online Facebook thoughts, prayers & hymns every Friday

St Matthew's Church Clergy

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Editorial Team

Susan Dick, Vera Marshall, Julie Gibson

Charles Martin

From our Registers

Christenings:

19th Dec 2020 Lily Louise Hall.
Imogen Nancy Thornhill.

2021

10th April Oscar Roman Kay.
10th July Sophia Ella Munro.
Ava Rose Munro.
24th July Cole David Husband.
Roman Atlas Stoker.

31st July Lucas Elias Lacey.
21st Aug Toby Ann Blair.
Ava Rose Watson.

28th Aug Olias Adam Hess.
Pixie Diane Sylvia Smith.

11th Sept Amelia Louise Barnes.
Charlotte Hope Mason

25th Sept Alex John Straughan.
Violet May Sewell.

Weddings:

19th Dec 2020 Adam David McGuire & Ashleigh Lydon.
14th Aug 2021 Jack Straughan & Lauren Watson.

40th Wedding Anniversary

1st Aug 2021 Stephen & Susan Enright

Funerals:

10th Dec 2020 Bill Hopkinson.


2021

26th Jan Jack Shaw.
22nd April Nancy Lawson.
19th May Kathleen Watson.
28th May Maud Eley.
31st June Enid Towers.
28th July Ivy Berriman.

Burial of ashes:

17th April Kenneth Walshaw.
26th May Joyce Richardson.
4th July Maud Eley.
20th Aug Kenneth Marshall.

If you have some local news or an article about the Newbottle area, then email it to: veramarshall1@hotmail.com



Vicar's Voice

Whilst it may not be true of absolutely everyone, most folk need some sort of routine in their lives to get them through the day, the week, the months and years etc... For me for instance, every week on Sundays and Wednesdays I go to church and lead worship. It helps to give my week shape and meaning, and I enjoy it. It also helps me to fulfil my sense of vocation to God, the Church, the people of St. Matthew's, and the parish of Newbottle. I like being with people and the social interaction that comes with it.

It's been hard for all of us during the last 18 months or so, as the routines which bring stability to our lives have been totally disrupted by the restrictions placed on us, in order to combat the Covid19 Pandemic. Whilst we are now able to go to church and meet with the people of God for worship, and whilst we're slowly returning to some kind of pre-covid19 normality in our worship at St. Matthew's, for safety reasons we still don't "Pass the Peace" with a hand shake or hug, or share the cup of wine, and we're continuing to sit in a socially distanced way.

As has been said by many people just lately, "We're working out what the new normal is likely to be". One of the highlights of the year for a lot of families is to take a holiday abroad, where good weather is much more likely than staying in this country. Planning the holiday is almost as much fun as going on the holiday, giving a great sense of anticipation of what is to come in a different culture and cuisine. I know that many, many people have been desperately disappointed that their plans have been frustrated, often at very short notice.

When I've asked people "How are things going?" they've often replied with something like, "Oh I've just written this year off". Others have said something like "We've just got to get on and make the best of things, there's nothing else we can do".

Our churches may have been closed for months on end, making it impossible for us to worship together. Christenings, weddings and funerals have been totally different to what we've been used to, and that has caused an awful lot of upset for an awful lot of people, but God has been with us through it all. We may have found it difficult to believe, especially when we've been feeling totally fed up and wondering what's going to happen next, but He's been there with us just waiting to be asked to reassure us.

As I've said many times over the years, when things are bad, reach out to God. Tell Him about the frustrations we all feel, the anger we feel. Maybe the feeling that this suffering we're going through is so undeserved – as Jesus did on the cross. And then, in faith, stop and patiently listen, impossible though that may seem to do so at times, for God's reply and allow His reassurance into our lives.

Remarkably this does work, but it's not easy. God does come to us and will reassure us that all will be well in the end. Try it and see.

Rev. Eddy Wilkinson.

It was with the greatest of sadness that we heard of Enid's death on 13th June. If you attend church you will have known Enid well and if you attended any of our church fayres you would have bought raffle tickets from her.

Enid Brown Taylor, the youngest of three children was born on 14th July 1936 – when her parents George & Annie Taylor were living in Beatrice Terrace near Fatfield Bridge in Washington. Local neighbours were comedian Bobby Thompson and the film star David Niven. The family moved to Langley Street in Herrington and she was a faithful member of St. Aidan's church and a regular member of the church choir – the love of singing hymns stayed with her all her life.

Enid was a bright girl, passed the 11+ and attended Houghton Grammar school. At 16 Enid left school and started as a nurse cadet at the old Dryburn hospital. Enid believed the excellent, rigorous "Proper" training she received at Dryburn stood her in good stead for the rest of her career in nursing, which she loved.

Enid met Bill Towers, who was in the Durham Light Infantry, at a dance in Durham. Once Bill had completed his National Service, (he was in the Burmese jungle) they got married in St. Aidan's church Herrington on 17th March 1955. After marrying, Enid & Bill first of all lived in a flat in Eden Terrace, Shiney Row, before moving to a prefab behind Eden Terrace and then to Sedgely Road, where Enid lived happily for the rest of her life.

Enid left Dryburn when she and Bill started a family, but once Denise and Stuart were older and at school, Enid went back to nursing. She worked for a while at Sunderland General, now Sunderland Royal, before moving to Chester-le-Street hospital then became a district nurse and worked on the district in Hetton from 1970 until she retired in 1992. As well as nursing Enid also enjoyed running a "Weight Watchers" class in Peterlee and Herrington Burn.

Enid's family have always been extremely important to her. When Denise and Stuart were younger, the family had holidays in England and later abroad. Enid & Bill had a caravan in Hamsterley Forest until the mid '80s. Later in life Enid & Bill travelled the world going to the USA,



Enid Towers 1936-2021

Canada, and more exotic places such as the Far East. After Bill died Enid went on cruises with Denise and granddaughter Fiona, and she enjoyed many great weekends at Haggerston Castle with Denise and the family – she liked to be away on holiday and going to see shows in the West End and locally at the Empire.

Enid was a people person who learnt sign language and had a great social life. She was a member of the Ladies Freemason Guild at Burdon Road in Sunderland. Enid was a very active member of this church being involved in flower

arranging, cleaning the church, she arranged our summer and Christmas Fairs for a number of years, she was on the church council and helped out at social events in the church hall.

Being a keen gardener, Enid grew her own fruit and veg and loved her green house and flowers in her borders - she enjoyed sitting in her garden. She had a very comfortable home where she liked to watch TV, especially the soaps, and she was a prodigious knitter.

Enid was very happy at home but she hated the months of lockdown and the isolation which that brought, even though she was very well supported by Denise and Stuart and the grandchildren, who made sure she had everything she needed. She couldn't wait to get out of the house to visit Denise and Stuart when she was allowed to – Stuart remembers she spent a whole afternoon sitting on his garden swing, delighted to be out of the house and with the family.

Over the years Enid had a few health problems, but she coped with them really well and they definitely didn't stop her from enjoying life to the full. She was a nurse and therefore when she was in hospital 3 or 4 weeks ago, Enid knew her life was coming towards its close, so she took charge and asked to go home. She wanted to spend her last days where she would be comfortable and relaxed and where the family could visit her whenever they wanted.

Enid said her final farewells to her family and died peacefully in her sleep on the Sunday morning of 13th June, before breakfast time. May she wake in the house of God and be reunited with Bill and all those who have gone before her.

Auntie Ivy

My Auntie Ivy knew her mind. She could be forthright, but she was a one to get things done. She was a worker, not a shirker, an asset to any organisation or group of friends.

Great joy – 101 years ago my Dad was born but the family was not complete. Seven years later his precious little sister arrived, my Auntie Ivy. As brother and sister they got on amazingly well, and as they grew into their teens and twenties they went to dances and socialised together. At the same time, a young man called Ronnie was growing up. He spied Ivy and very soon they were smitten.

Post war they started up a business building new homes (Berriman's), and the pair worked really hard complementing each other, with Ivy doing the bookkeeping and the management side as the business grew.

Early on they joined the Rotary Club, where they met like minded people and made life long friends. In latter years Ivy was a member of the Inner Wheel – organising or taking part in coffee mornings. She took on the leadership role of President more than once, and loved to go to conferences with her life long friend Freda.

In due course their much loved only son Michael, was born. Michael attended the Durham School and went on to study business studies. He finished his higher education and Ivy and Ronnie were delighted that he secured a job at Vaux and would be living at home. In fact, the loft was converted into a flat but – Michael met Hilary. Two granddaughters were born, Ashley and Charlotte, and they were the love of Ivy's life.

Taking the train to London, usually with Freda, to visit Ashley always proved exciting with a tour of Buckingham Palace. Ivy was proud of the girls' hard work at university and of the jobs they got. Ivy was thrilled when Ivy and Kris got married – such a special day. At this busy time in Ivy's life, she still had time to be a magistrate, giving back to the community.

Ivy was loyal. After Ronnie suffered a stroke, she



visited him in the Care Home every day. On one occasion it was getting late as she waited for him to return from hospital to the Care Home. At last the ambulance arrived to settle him in, but it wasn't him! Ronnie was still in hospital in bed, while some other individual had been kidnapped! Ivy gave the same quality of care to Ronnie as she gave to her own father, who had also suffered a stroke.

After my Dad died, Ivy and Ronnie stepped in to fill that gap. Snooker with Stephen was popular and latterly my husband Peter and son Philip would take her to lunch at Seaham, unless of course it was St. Matthew's Church Fayre. This church embraced Ivy and she was to be found helping with tea and coffee each Sunday. Monday afternoon was sewing at the Methodist Church, and as she entered her nineties, the gym was cut from three times a week to just twice a week. Michael helped his mum to be as independent as possible enabling her to go on cruises, where she kept in touch with new friends made in Morpeth. Ivy never stopped connecting with people.

Monday, 5th July was sadly the last time I saw Auntie Ivy. She was laid comfortably in bed having suffered a slight stroke. She asked me to take her to Cambridge to see Chris and Jo, Freya and Aoife, although she was having problems speaking. I assured her that next time I would bring a rope and pull the bed down the A19. She laughed at such an escapade. As the doctor and nurse came into the room, I said to them: "You are meeting a very special person. This lady has just become a great grandmother." She lifted up her shoulders, bobbed her head from side to side and a huge smile went from ear to ear. She was so proud. A week earlier the Care Home had very kindly organised a baby shower for her to meet new baby Isobel.

Baby Isobel brought great joy, first to Ivy as their lives overlapped by weeks, and to the whole family.

God bless you Auntie Ivy, much loved mum, grandma and great grandma.

Nancy was born on the 30th September 1920. She has an older brother Leslie, a younger sister Peggy, who was born in 1922, and younger brother Cyril, sadly died of polio aged 3 years old. When Nancy was very young the family lived in the pub which stood on the green between Newbottle church hall and what is now Newbottle Working Men's Club – it was the “King William the Fourth”.



Annie Louisa Lawson “Nancy”

When she was still a child Nancy and the family moved to Herrington, which is where she grew up and went to school. After leaving school Nancy went to Shotley Bridge to train as a Nursery Nurse. It was while at Shotley Bridge that Nancy met Jean, who later married Nancy's cousin Ernie Wilson – as well as being related through marriage, Nancy & Jean remained committed lifelong friends.

Nancy spent the war years at Shotley Bridge. Having qualified as a Nursery Nurse and once the war was over, she moved back to Herrington and found employment as a nursery in Hetton. It was during this time that she met future husband George Lawson, who was also from Herrington, they courted and got engaged in 1948, and were married in this church by Mr. Birt, vicar of Newbottle, in 1950 - their daughter Denise was born in 1952. Nancy has lived in Cairnhill Terrace for well over 50 years.

Nancy loved being a housewife. She enjoyed cooking, baking, and sewing – being a homemaker for George and Denise. Her family was always very important to her, so it was particularly sad that having reached 100 years old she was not able to see them for a family birthday party because of Covid19 restrictions. She did however greatly enjoy receiving her telegram from the Queen and all the other cards and flowers she received on the day.

When she was younger Nancy was a very active member of Shiney Row Women's Institute – she particularly enjoyed being part of the entertainment group, and loved crafting and making things; such as beautifully embroidered table cloths. In the 1960's Nancy worked as a nursery nurse in Sunderland, before moving to work as a teaching assistant in a reception class at a school in Penshaw. She greatly enjoyed working with young children.

After Nancy and George retired they would spend time visiting family and liked nothing more than taking their grandchildren Danielle & Amy to South Shields for a day out. They enjoyed holidays with Lovat & Elsie Raine – Nancy told me that Bourton-on-the-water, in the Cotswolds, was a place they particularly enjoyed. They liked to go to Newcastle for a meal – they liked being together.

Sadly George died at the age of 86 on New Year's Day in 2008. It was after this that Nancy, Elsie and Joy Warren spent a lot of time together going out for lunch and shopping which Nancy liked – when she could

make it, Jean was also invited along.

Nancy had a fall and broke her hip in 2016, which affected her mobility but being a determined person she didn't let that stop her from doing her own shopping and from getting out and about. Being a spirited individual she got over catching Covid19 – though she did lose her independence which was very important to her.

Nancy, from her earliest years has been a member of this church. When she was a child she was a member of the “Sunday School” and also the GFS – the Girls Friendly Society, under the leadership of Miss Robson. Nancy & George were active members of Joe Osman's bible study group, which met alternatively in their house and at Fred and Joan Carr's house, for many years. Before he died George was licensed to take Holy Communion to Nancy at home, using the portable communion table that Nancy's cousin Ernie Wilson made and over the last few years I've done the same – my visits involved tea and nice biscuits and good chat. As a woman with a deep Christian faith Nancy greatly valued receiving the bread and wine.

Nancy died very peacefully in Valley View care home, Penshaw on the 5th April, in her 101st year. It is our hope and prayer that she is now peacefully re-united with George and all those who have gone before into the home of the heavenly Father.

Amen.

Harvest and Broth and Stottie Night

After our Harvest service all the gifts of produce were taken to the church hall in preparation for our annual Broth and Stottie supper and auction.

This was a particularly special event as we were unable to have one last year due to the Covid restrictions. We still had to be sensible this year, keeping to some distancing. It was our first church get together outside of church itself and what a pleasure it was, with all proceeds going to Water Aid – a great charity, which brings access to clean water and sanitation for poor people, across the world. £146 was raised for this excellent cause.

Thank you to all who gave so generously and a massive thank you to Anne, Mary and Dave for all that chopping, preparation and cooking and also to young Connie who helped clear up, after she'd bought her produce.

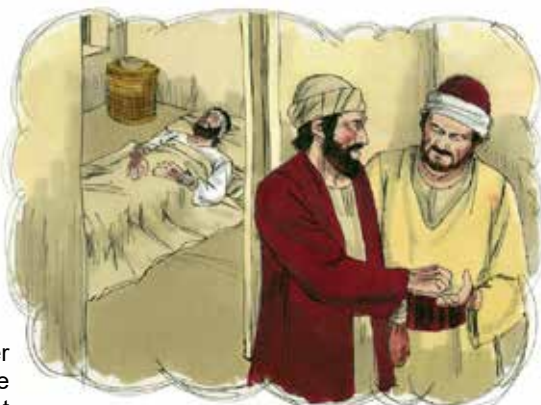


MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT Coffee Morning

This year, Anne Martin, decided to have her annual coffee morning after the Sunday morning service – services actually, as she organised 3 of them. There were lots of delicious offerings and all for such a great cause. Many of us have benefitted from the support of Macmillan within our families. Anne says a huge thank you to everyone who contributed their baking and who donated so generously. And we all say thank you to Anne for arranging it. Up until Sunday £286.50 was made for Macmillan.



"WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?"



In the Bible, in the Gospel of Luke Chapter 10, a lawyer talks with Jesus about how he might inherit eternal life. He knows he must follow the Jewish law – love your neighbour as yourself – and so he asks Jesus, “Who is my neighbour?” ...

I think it is generally accepted that people have a tendency to be kind to those in need, especially people that they know, or to people whose situation resonates with something within their own experience.

The phrase ‘going the extra mile’ can refer to someone, or an organisation, such as the church, doing more in kindness than meeting the bare requirements of someone’s situation.

It can also mean, as best we can, helping those people, at home and abroad, whom we might never meet, whose situation might be well beyond our understanding.

In a very real sense, we can be the answer, or at least part of the answer, to their prayers. To their cry for help.

As I write this, St Matthew’s Church Harvest Appeal is supporting fundraising efforts for Water Aid. This organisation aims to provide clean water and sanitation around the world.

We have also been fundraising for Christian Aid, in support of their work with the people of Haiti following the devastating earthquake, and their India coronavirus appeal.

Closer to home, money has been raised for Macmillan Cancer Support. I can still taste the lovely coffee and home-made cake from our event after morning worship today.

Jesus invites us to extend our generosity to our family, our friends, our community, and to all those in need around the world.

Thank you

Stephen Holmes

Sept 2021





Newbottle Primary Academy

We've missed you!

In 2020 we were beginning preparations for our usual school's Easter service. We had arranged an art activity for the children to complete. We always do this at Easter and we've had some beautiful artwork that has been displayed in our church at Easter, over many years. This year we provided the classes with large crosses and asked them to fill them with decorated hands. We'd received the beautiful finished crosses from the children, but then of course Covid loomed and churches were closed. We so missed seeing the children and hearing their voices at their service. It's always a pleasure.

We hung on to the decorated crosses and this Easter (2021), although the children couldn't come up to church, we decided to display their crosses over the Easter period. Many people admired them and asked about them, including the Bishop of Durham's pilgrimage party and Bishop Sarah. So, thank you for your beautiful art work children.

Covid rules were still in place at Easter and we were sitting pews apart, with no singing, but the children's crosses helped to brighten our Easter.

We very much hope that next Easter will see a return of the children for their Easter service.





THE TAYLOR FAMILY FOUNDATION

The Taylor Trust Fund was originally established at the Community Foundation in 2005, by the Executors and Trustees of the estate of Frank Taylor. Frank and his wife Pat were long serving members of St. Matthew's church and they wanted to leave funds for the repair and maintenance of their parish church and also to provide educational grants to help students. Frank and Pat were involved in education all of their lives and wanted to help students to fulfil their potential by going on to further education.

The grants were to be available for young people living in the parish of Newbottle or who had some connection to St. Matthew's. This grant has supported local scholars to access a broad range of educational courses throughout the last 15 years.

If anyone is interested in applying, applications can be made on-line at

www.communityfoundation.org.uk

Frank and Pat lived at Newby cottage in the village. Pat died in April 2000 and Frank in September 2003. Throughout their lives they were dedicated to St. Matthew's, Newbottle. They both sang in the choir and Pat was Sanctuary Guild Flower organiser for over 25 years. They were PCC members with Frank also serving as churchwarden and Deanery Synod member.

We as a church are very grateful for the legacy which was left to us for maintenance and repairs and to local students.

NEWBOTTLE'S NEWEST HOTEL

This is our new hotel, but only if you have four legs or more! Following the addition of a wild flower garden to our churchyard last year, we hope to encourage even more insect life by providing a desirable habitat for them. The insect hotel is nestled between the trees to the left of our gates as you enter the churchyard. Please go and have a look the next time you're out for a walk. Janette designed it, and was helped with the construction by Terry, Andrew, Christine and me.

Jacqui Harriman



Christenings

at St. Matthew's Church, Newbottle



Lily Louise Hall
Parents Christopher & Katherine
19th Dec 2020



Imogen Nancy Thornhill
Parents Jamie & Lauren
19th Dec 2020



Oscar Roman Kay
10th April 2021



Sophie Ella & Ava Rose Munro twins
10th July 2021



Cole David Husband.
Parents David and Lauren Husband
24th July 2021



Roman Atlas Stoker
Parents Chantelle McKellar and Max Stoker
24th July 2021



Lucas Elias Lacey
Parents Anne Marie Lacey, Liam
31st July 2021



Toby John Blair and Ava Rose Watson
Parents Stuart and Gemma, Josh and Amy
21st August 2021



Olias Adam Hess
Parents Adam and Michaela
21st August 2021



Pixie Diane Sylvia Smith
Saturday 28th August 2021



Amelia Louise Barnes
11th September 2021



Charlotte Hope Mason
11th September 2021

Weddings

at St. Matthew's Church, Newbottle



Adam David McGuire & Ashleigh Lydon
19th Dec 2020



Lauren Watson and Jack William
Straughan
Saturday 14th August 2021



Stephen and Susan Enright
40th Wedding Anniversary Blessing
in Church
- 1st August 2021



The Way of Learning Pilgrimage visiting our very own Newbottle

Durham has been a place of pilgrimage for centuries. A pilgrimage is a journey with meaning and purpose, and there are many reasons to participate, from wellbeing and walking to food and sport, and from events and festivals to art and history.

The Northern Saints Trails, promote the region's Christian heritage, but will appeal to those of other faiths, and to those simply looking for relaxation, a walking challenge, the chance to get back to nature and discover the region's stunning landscapes, or to uncover fascinating history. Durham Cathedral will be at the centre of the trails recognising its role as a destination for pilgrims. Pilgrimages are becoming popular walking days and holidays. Perhaps you have seen some of the ones featured on television.

Our church, St Matthew's is on the route of one of the Pilgrimage routes.

Our Bishops walked the routes earlier this year. They had originally planned to begin them in 2020 have, but due to the Covid pandemic, they began this year.

The 4 Pilgrimages are:

***The Way of Life Pilgrimage from
Gainsford to Durham***

***The Way of Love Pilgrimage from
Hartlepool to Durham***

***The Way of Learning Pilgrimage from
Jarrow to Durham (ours)***

***The Way of Light from Hexham to
Durham***

St Matthew's is on the Way of Learning and the inaugural one took place on 16th–

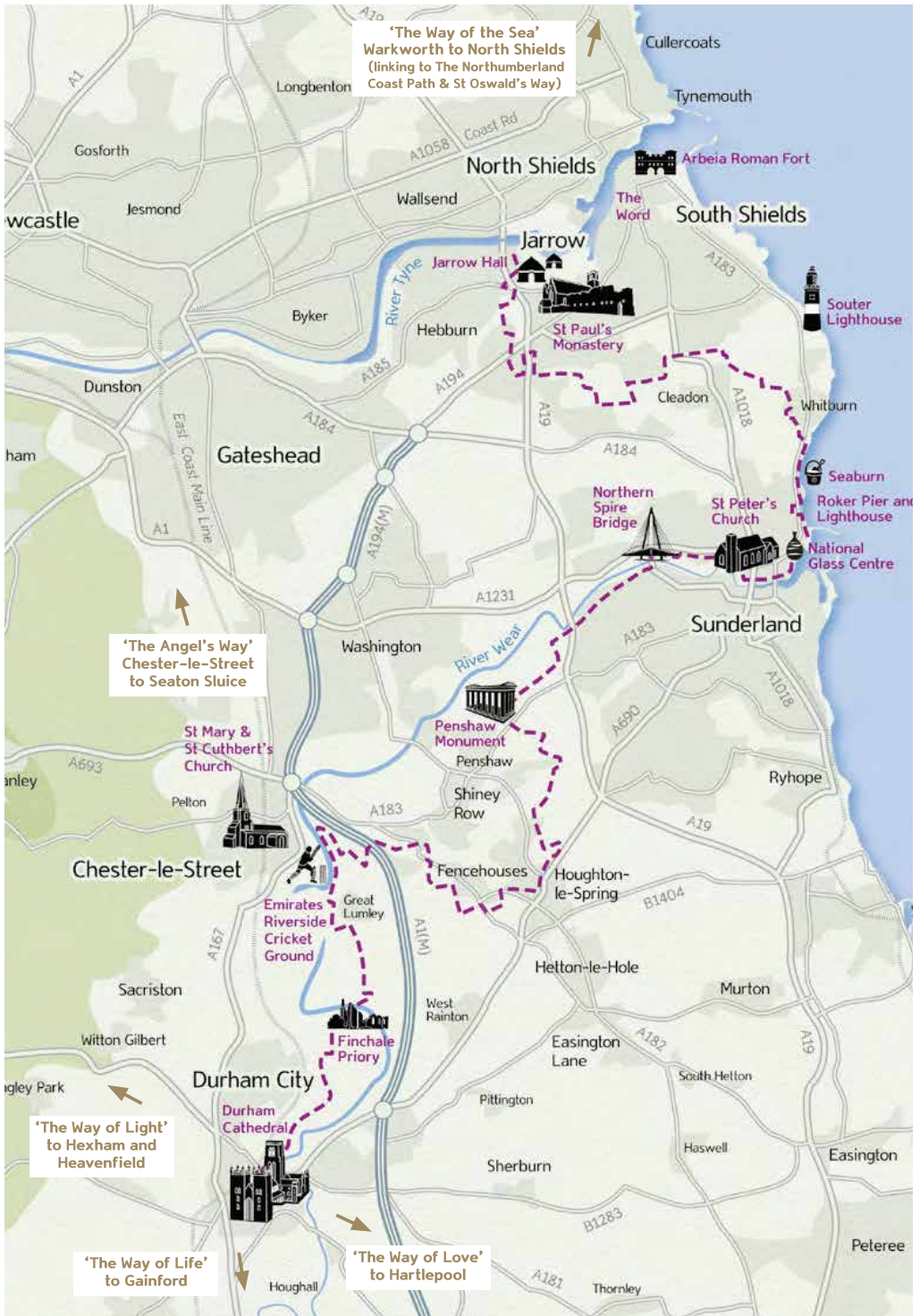
18th May.

The route partly follows Bede's Way from Jarrow to Monkwearmouth, The Weardale Way from New Lambton and Cuddy's Corse from Chester-le-Street to Durham. The route is 61 kilometres or 38 miles.

The primary focus for the majority of pilgrims journeying to Durham Cathedral in the Middle Ages was the shrine of St Cuthbert, but the other most notable person, whose tomb is in the Galilee Chapel in the cathedral, is the Venerable Bede. It is primarily because of him that this route is called The Way of Learning. He was indeed a man of great learning, who is probably best known for writing the first history of England. It was called An Ecclesiastical History of the English Speaking People. During his long life of extraordinary scholarship, he wrote 60 books.


Both Bishops Paul and Sarah and about 23 others took part in the Pilgrimage from Jarrow to Durham taking in lots of churches including Whitburn Parish church, St Peter's Monkwearmouth, Penshaw, Newbottle, Houghton, Chilton Moor and Chester-le-Street.

The entourage arrived at Newbottle on Monday at about 2:45. Everyone was very interested in looking at our church – the building, the crosses produced by the children of Newbottle Primary Academy, the little history display & the handmade crosses made by Jim Roberts. Each member was given a one of these crosses. Many comments were made about how beautiful our church is. Some wanted to know more of the history and others were interested on what goes on in our church. Of course all Covid rules were adhered to. They then travelled on to St Andrew's Chilton Moor, where the Bishop & his wife were spending the night before moving on to Chester-le-Street and finally to Durham Cathedral.





CALLING ALL AMATEUR SLEUTHS

*Study these
photographs
carefully!* 

Have you seen one of these before?

This one was sold by Anderson-Garlan (antiques & Collectables on 17th April 2007. The picture is dedicated to "Pitmen" and is inscribed Peter & Isabella Hopper of Newbottle.

It is a 19th Century Sunderland mug, but is similar to some made by Burnside Potteries of Newbottle.

It is now owned by a gentleman in Edinburgh and he would like to know more of its provenance. That's a word you'll know if you watch the BBCs "Fake or Fortune". It is a record of ownership of a work of art or antique, or in other words its history.

We know there are Hoppers in the village. Do you recognise the names? Do you know of anyone who had grandparents with these names? Do any of you own any similar mugs or pieces of pottery?

If so please get in touch with us



Winter Prayer

Let us huddle together this morning, our community a place of warmth in our lives as we share the flame of hope and connection.

Let us allow the frost of isolation and bitterness to melt away as we open ourselves to a sense of peace and spirit.

We extend our thoughts to all those who are cold this morning, lacking shelter or love to keep them warm.

Let us wrap our prayers around them and each other like scarves, and wish each other safe journeys through the storm.

May we be insulated from fear as the earth is insulated by the snow, and like bulbs, may we continue to grow and open inside, despite the cold ready for the spring, to stretch and grow towards justice.

Amen



Notices & Information

FABRIC FUND

In loving memory of George Clough. From daughters Valerie, Linda & families
In memory of Dennis Hall. From his family
In memory of Audrey and Bill Oxenham. From son John & family
Donation from Margaret Gould
Donation from Margaret Freeman
Birthday memories of Ron Maxwell. From loving wife Rita
Christmas memories of our dear parents and all loved ones. Margaret & Brian
In memory of all family and friends at Christmas. Catherine Morton
Thank you to everyone who has made a donation to St. Matthew's fabric fund during the past year, either in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a special event.

FLOWER ARRANGING ROTA

9.00am Friday - Anne, Marjorie, Mary, Pat

FLOWER FUND DONATIONS



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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Tuesday	9.30am - 11.30am	Art & Craft
Tuesday	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Karate
Wednesday	6.00pm - 7.00pm	Zumba
Thursday	10.30am - 11.30am	Sit & be fit
Thursday	12.00noon - 1.30pm	Lunch club
Thursday	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Karate
Friday	10.00am - 11.00am	Zumba
Sunday	5.30pm - 6.30pm	Karate

For all Information on St. Matthew's Church
and Church Hall visit our website

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