



Group News

Minister

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** December * 2008-9 * January **

www.eastclevelandurc.org.uk

Part of the URC Northern Synod – www.urc-northernsynod.org.uk

Dear Friends,

Whilst at college one of the biblical courses I did was entitled 'From Nazareth to Rome'. It followed the writing of Luke who recorded the life of Jesus in his gospel beginning with early life in Nazareth and followed on by recording the Acts of the Apostles ending with Paul in Rome.

In this season of Advent we anticipate Christmas and the celebration of God's gift to us in Jesus Christ. Coming into this world as a tiny baby, as a human being, was a tremendous risk on God's part. And Jesus the adult often found himself in very vulnerable positions but he continued to speak and act as he believed God, his Father, commanded. He was prepared to take great risks because... God so loved the world.

My time on sabbatical led me into discovering much more about Paul whose life ended in Rome. Like Jesus he was prepared to put himself at great risk. Often he found himself to be extremely vulnerable and the attacks didn't always come from outside the Church but also from within. Yet Paul withstood dangers and continued to spread the gospel... all because he loved God.

Christmas is a time of giving and receiving, of sharing with our loved ones. Both Jesus and Paul were men who gave... perhaps much more than they received from other human beings. Their giving came out of what they received from God and because God so loved the world they were more than willing to give and, in so doing, take risks. They both received the wonderful love of God, the Father, and such was that love that they felt they had to share it... even if it meant taking risks.

How much are we aware of God's love for us? Taking risks can be difficult but when we are secure in the Father's love as Jesus and Paul were then we can take risks and really share the true message of Christmas with others. We may begin as we anticipate the birth of Jesus and his early years in Nazareth and then who knows how and where we may be led to share God's love with others.

May you know God's love and presence throughout the festive season and beyond. Receive his gift of love ... unwrap it and share it not only during the festive season but beyond.

Blessings,

Meg



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Our visit from Gerald and Prince

Our Zambian visitors, Revd's Gerald Phiri and Prince Nkhoswe came to the East Cleveland Group for the weekend on October 17th to 19th, as part of their whirlwind tour around the North of England and Scotland. However they weren't a bit tired as Catey and John picked them up from Murton and brought them down to Middlesbrough, via the famous Transporter Bridge (incidentally they were sitting in our VW "transporter" van as they crossed the Transporter Bridge), as in Zambia they are used to having to walk or cycle around their large pastorate, and sitting in cars travelling around the UK they found easy indeed! Revd's Prince and Gerald had a warm welcome from John and Shirley Morse, their hosts for the weekend, including a lovely meal on the Friday evening. Then bright and early Friday morning Ken took Prince and Gerald along to Teesport to see the work of the Chaplaincy team there, including going onto to one of the large container ships. I think Prince and Gerald, who are from a land-locked country, were glad to be floating on the sea rather than in it! After lunch with Ken and Dorothy, Prince and Gerald enjoyed a spot of shopping in Guisborough, and Ken was much enlightened, as they enjoyed a tour of the charity shops in Guisborough!! Well, these were the shops more in Gerald and Prince's price range. With holiday presents purchased, it was time for a little socialising with the folk from our Guisborough Church over a bring and share fellowship meal, before a well earned rest back at John and Shirley's in Marton.

However, Sunday we really put them to work, with Gerald accompanying Ken to Guisborough and Redcar churches, while Prince accompanied Catey to Marton and then on to Linthorpe. Their preaching and teaching was like a breath of fresh air and an encouragement to us in our churches not to be

down hearted about declining numbers, but to know that God will raise up the churches in our country again in God's own time! Prince spoke with great clarity and enthusiasm, and yet, we were to hear, that he had just heard that his mother had passed away that morning. And so after a quick lunch at the Redcar manse and a short walk on the beach, it was time for them to continue on to Northallerton for their final few days of their stay in the UK.

I really was sad to see them go. We had known them for such a short amount of time, and yet I feel that they are now our friends. When I look out on the sea sometime soon, I will see God's glory, just as they did on seeing the sea! And maybe, just maybe, I might at some point in the future be able to respond to their invitation to come and meet them and their churches in Zambia.

Catey

Donation to Romans 1.11 Trust

Catey is pleased to announce that we will be sending a cheque for £200 from the East Cleveland Group to Romans 1.11 Trust for our Zambian friends, Revd. Gerald Phiri and Revd. Prince Nkhoswe. Since their visit, I have received information to say that they are seeking money to build a house for Prince and his family, as he receives no wage from his pastorate of 3 churches, and he and his family do not have a permanent place to live. The house would remain the property of his church pastorate, but would enable Prince and his family to have a secure home. I will be recommending that Romans 1.11 could use our donation for this purpose, if this is indeed the project of greatest current need. Any further donations can still be given to Catey.

Stop Press – latest news of future children's events!!!

Catey and Jacquie are planning a New Year bowling party for the children in our Group (and adult helpers who promise to behave!). This will hopefully be taking place on **Saturday January 10th** from 10.30am until 1pm at Hollywood Bowl Teesside Park. Once details are finalised invitations will be given out to book your place!!!

Also an advance date for your diaries – there will be another sleepover event on Saturday 4th to Sunday 5th April, involving an Easter Egg hunt and more. Venue to be confirmed but **put this date in your diaries now!!!**

Prayers

Synod Prayers for December are for the Gateshead Group and Mission Partnership

Week beginning 7th December - Brighton Road; Cromer Avenue; Denewell Avenue

Week beginning 14th December - Ryton; Winlton LEP; Synod Committees

Week beginning 21st December - Ministers: Gordon and Elaine Brown

Week beginning 28th December - Asylum Seekers; people of other faiths

Ecumenical Church Leaders: Paul Richardson (Anglican Assistant Bishop of Newcastle).

Prayers for January are for Synod and Northumberland

Week beginning 4th January - Synod & Synod Committees/Groups

Week beginning 11th January - North Northumberland Mission Partnership.

Moderator; Rev Rowena Francis

Week beginning 18th January - Mid Northumberland Mission Partnership

Synod Clerk & Ecumenical Officer, Rev John Durell

Week beginning 25th January - South East Northumberland Ecumenical Area

Ecumenical Church Leaders: Martin Wharton (Anglican Bishop of Newcastle)

A Modern Epiphany?

Something like 45 years ago a young couple joined what was then Park Presbyterian Church. They had two sons, the elder about 6 or 7 and the younger no more than 4. The younger child was sickly and shortly after joining Linthorpe was diagnosed as suffering from Leukæmia. At that time there was very little that could be done and he soon disappeared into hospital at Darlington. Apparently they had better facilities than those provided by Middlesbrough General Hospital.

There came a time when the parents were told their little son had not long to live. After some discussion they agreed that he had to be told he was dying. Both parents went to the hospital and told the little boy that he would soon be joining Jesus. His reply: "You mean the person who sits beside me when you are not here and goes as soon as you arrive? He's already told me that I will be joining him soon".

Think about it. If they had decided to let him die in 'peace' then they would never have known about the Lord's activity.

The appearance of this Man must have been totally normal. If not, the little boy would have told his parents about this stranger who was different from the other men he had seen. He must have dressed like his father or one of the doctors, totally ordinarily. The child must have seen a 'solid' man as otherwise he would have told his parents and indeed might well have been frightened. In fact the child was introduced to his Saviour by his parents! Think of the Lord's

Manse Prayers

Manse Prayers are held every Tuesday at 8.45am and everyone is welcome to attend. Venues are as follows:

Tue 2nd Dec	Guisborough	(prayers for Redcar)
Tue 9th Dec	Marton	(prayers for Guisborough)
Tue 16th Dec	Redcar	(prayers for St Andrew's)
Tue 23rd Dec	Guisborough	(prayers for Lingdale)
Tue 30th Dec	Marton	(prayers for Linthorpe)
Tue 6th Jan	Redcar	(prayers for Redcar)
Tue 13th Jan	Guisborough	(prayers for Guisborough)
Tue 20th Jan	Marton	(prayers for St. Andrew's)
Tue 27th Jan	Redcar	(prayers for Lingdale)

Guisborough: 31 Oakley Close; Marton: 10 Farington Drive;
Redcar: 31 Torcross Way

humility, giving precedence to the parents when they arrived at the child's bedside. Not only precedence, but going altogether so that the little boy could concentrate on his parents and not be distracted by the presence of this other Man.

When the child died one of his Grandfathers was beside himself with grief and endlessly walked the streets of central Middlesbrough at night time to exhaust himself and so deaden his grief. The parents asked the older son if he would like to go the funeral. He insisted, because if he didn't, "Who would look after Grandfather who doesn't really know what is going on". This he did. He became quite proprietorial and protective of his Grandfather. There has always been 'discussion' on the subject of the resurrected boy. Consider the little boy in conversation with his

Father and his probable replies:

Father: This man was quite ordinary then; he didn't wear fancy clothes?

Child: No, why should he?

Father: He sat on the bedside chair where Mummy is now sitting?

Child: Yes.

A 'body' not seen or apprehended by the medical or nursing staff!

A footnote

The wife had excellent qualities of spiritual leadership but unfortunately this was before women were acceptable as Elders. We therefore went ahead and ordained her husband who had few of his wife's gifts. The minister at the time or the previous one told us he would instantly leave the pastorate if we went ahead and ordained a woman elder! At the moment we have six Elders and I am the only man!

Richard Harris

Linthorpe

Scout Report

Many thanks to Gillian Rathbone and Anne Hood who raised £26.63 towards group funds at the District 'Table top sale' on Saturday 25 October.

Scouts enjoyed a Halloween party on the 28th October. The meeting included fancy dress (sometimes difficult to know who was wearing a mask!) plenty of fun games and eating sticky wet and watery food.

The group's Autumn Fair took place on Thursday 13 November. Many thanks to the Group executive and parents that helped to set it up on the Wednesday and run the stalls on the night. It was not a very good night to be out but we still raised £118 towards group funds

Christmas card/senior citizens party Saturday 3rd January 2009

Explorer Scout Unit is once again offering a postal service. Stamps are only 5 for £1 and are now available. Final collection day is Sunday 14 December. All proceeds will go towards Senior Citizens party including entertainment by the Explorer Scouts to be held on Saturday 3 January 2009

Christmas parties all sections are holding Christmas parties Scouts on the 16th and Beavers/Cubs on the 18th December. Beaver/Cubs and scouts will be taking a 2 week break over Christmas returning 6th (Scouts) and 8th (Beavers/Cubs) January 2009.

Ivor Huskinson (Group Scout Leader)

Coffee After Morning Worship

19th Oct.-Children With Liver Disease
£8.00.-.S&D Knox

26th Oct - Guide Dogs For The Blind
£11.50.-.P&J Horbury

2nd Nov.-MacMillan Nurses
£14.00.-.H Kettlewell

16th Nov.-Children With Liver Disease
£15.00.-.S&D Knox

Grateful thanks to all who give so generously to these worthy causes.

Rotas

	Vestry	Porch
7 th Dec	M Gilmour	J Haverson
14 th Dec	R Harris	S Mapplebeck C Tovey
21 st Dec	J Harper	G Dodds
28 th Dec	H Kettlewell	M Tilley

Scripture Readers

7 th Dec	S Mapplebeck
14 th Dec	Parade
21 st Dec	J Harper
28 th Dec	F Rowe

Church Flowers

7 th Dec	Vijay Vij
14 th Dec	J Harper, (in memory of Babs Hogarth)
21 st Dec	P Rowe
28 th Dec	TBA

Credit Union

Please note The Credit Union will be closed on Tuesday 23rd December and Tuesday 30th December. There will be no collections on these days.

Rotas 2009

The rotas for 2009 are not yet to hand. Please watch the notice board for further information.

Tea/Coffee After Worship

7 th Dec	Children With Liver Disease	S&D Knox
14 th Dec	Brownies	V Walker
21 st Dec	Guide Dogs For The Blind	P&J Horbury
28 th Dec	Macmillan Nurses	H. Kettlewell

Linthorpe Calendar

Tue 9 th Dec	7.30pm	Church Meeting in the Jameson Lounge
Thu 11 th Dec	6.00pm	Insurance Carol Service.
Sun 14 th Dec	11.00am	Christingle Service
Sun 21 st Dec	11.00am	Carols and Christmas Readings
Thu 25 th Dec	10.00am	Joint Christmas Day service at St Andrew's, Marton
Thu 15 th Jan 2009		Leadership Team meeting. Venue to be announced

Guisborough

By the time you read this we will be in the season of Advent. A time to be looking forward – with joy to Christmas and the renewal of God's promise to us – and perhaps with trepidation to the New Year and what that might bring. Looking still further forward to Easter, we might remember that Jesus did not come to make us rich, but to offer salvation and the strength to cope with whatever life might throw at us meantime. Did having more and more of everything really make us happy, or can we manage just as well with less?

But as I write it is still the season of Remembrance. On Remembrance Sunday Ken preached a thoughtful sermon and we watched the National Ceremonies at Whitehall and at the Albert Hall on TV. Time was when memories were still too raw and many felt very uncomfortable with the whole thing. Now I think we have learned not to glorify war, but to mourn the dreadful losses. And pray earnestly that such things will never happen again.

Another moment of remembrance, or perhaps nostalgia, was when Mike Thompson gave us an evening with Peter Dawson. His was an era when popular singers could actually sing and you could hear their words. And if the songs were sometimes sentimental at least the sentiments were ones we could share in. Mike led us through Peter's life and music and even brought in a few other Greats of his time.

For me it brought back memories of my grandfather singing accompanied by my father at the piano. I can

still hear his lovely baritone voice. It worries me that in these increasingly hectic days when families are spread all over the country, the globe even; such family moments are becoming rare.

Now it wouldn't be me if I did not say 'I'm just back from...' Well Bhutan – lost somewhere in the eastern Himalayas. It's been on our TV quite a bit recently so I don't need to say more than 'Amazing' and 'Different' We arrived just in time for the Coronation. I have a photo of D sitting on a roll of Royal Red Carpet with range upon range of high snow-capped mountains receding into in the distance. Trust him he was deep in conversation with the King's Chef. Later I saw the King on TV talking about the National Goal of increasing their Gross National Happiness. He was realistic enough to know that a strong economy and a well educated population were essential to achieving this.

Has the pursuit of GNH worked? All I can say is the people we met seemed well fed, well housed, happy, smiling, and they almost all speak good English. (It's the medium of instruction there). I wonder what Britain would be like if success was seen as more than just obscene wealth for the most powerful?

The population is almost all Tibetan Buddhist. Al-

Carol Service - Belmont View

Christmas Eve at 2.30pm

All are welcome to and celebrate Christmas with the residents!

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Services will be held in Churches during the week:

Mon 19th Jan - 12noon - Salvation Army

Tue 20th Jan - 7.00pm - St Paulinus

Wed 21st Jan - 12noon - Methodist

Thu 22nd Jan - 12noon - URC

Fri 23rd Jan - 12noon St Nicholas'

Sun 25th Jan - 6.15pm - St Nicholas' Parish Church
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Dedication Service
led by Guisborough Christian Fellowship

though their beliefs and images seem exotic, their meaning is not. The temple walls are covered with Demons and Saints. In their legends the Holy Men battle to pin down the demons; Not to kill them, but to force them to repent and become helpers of Man. Animal lovers will be glad to know Buddhists are very reluctant to kill any living thing. There is a problem with rabies and stray dogs. Their solution is to round them up – difficult as strays tend to like their freedom. They are taken to large (ten acres or so) fenced compounds in the mountains. There they are fed, vaccinated and sterilized. After that they are free to go. But with free food on offer many seem to choose to stay.

Nowadays we all try to be Eco-Friendly. But that's not enough. Everyone else has to join in too. With that in mind I offer you a poem I picked up in Bhutan. Naturally the people draw their inspiration from other scriptures. But they come to similar conclusions; and dare I point out, they got there rather sooner than us -

Life is like the morning dew,
 The sun comes and it is gone.
 From the time we were born,
 Mother Earth nurtures and feeds us.
 At times, we forget and make her groan,
 As we rob the treasures from her day by day.
 Let us not test her patience,
 A vengeful Earth is a mighty foe.
 Her anger would turn into fire,
 Her breath will fuel the angry fire.
 Till the world is gone to dust again.
 When her anger dies and we are gone.
 She would start another new life.
 Her tears would soak the dust
 And a new life would come on Mother Earth,
 A new life which would embrace her kindness.
 Let us not test the wrath of Mother Earth,
 We will lose the battle from every nook,
 Even a mouse if cornered would stand and fight
 And Mother Earth, she is a mighty one.

Happy New Year.

Maureen Houston

Guisborough Calendar

Mon	1, 8 & 15 th , Dec	7.30pm	Advent Studies – Led by Rev Ken Harris at 31 Oakley Close
Sat	6 Dec	8.00am	Prayer Breakfast for the Bridge Association – at St Nichols Parish Church Hall Bowe St.
Tue	9 Dec	7.30pm	Carol Singing – hosted by Donna Moore.
Sat	13 Dec	10am - 12 noon	Farmers' Market – Church Open Day. Volunteers welcome.
Sun	14 Dec	9.30am	Nativity Service led by Junior Church
Tue	13 Jan	7.15pm	Elders Meeting
Thu	15 Jan	7.00pm	Mission Partnership - Team Leaders meeting
Sun	18 Jan	10.00am	Guiz Kids – Guisbro' Churches JC's joining together at Prior Purselove Sports Centre.
Thu	22 Jan	12 to 12.30pm	Service of Unity in Guisborough United Reformed Church.

Weekly

Tuesdays	12.30pm	Bible Study
Thursdays	9.30am – 11.45am	Coffee Morning
Thursdays	11.30am	Prayers and reflections with Catey, Meg, Ken and some of us

Modern

The incarnation is a happening both unique and ordinary. It is so complete and absolute of its kind that it has no parallels, no precedents, no successors, but the flesh-taking of God as Jesus is a unique example of the kind of ordinary event I want to call 'breakthrough'

Rosemary Haughton North American theologian (Late twentieth Century)

Lingdale

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's Shoebox Appeal. Twenty one boxes were given a send-off at our Shoebox Sunday Service, a special thank you to Rowena for her story telling.

Remembrance Sunday

By the time you read this Remembrance Sunday will seem a long time ago but I wanted to say how nice it is to see so many people attending the village ceremony. Those in attendance had started to dwindle but the last few years has seen an increase and this year for the first time some of the children from the primary school came and laid a wreath – it was lovely to see them.

Flower Rota

7 th Dec	Miss J Scarth
14 th Dec	Mr T Waller
21 st Dec	Mrs J Scott
28 th Dec	Mrs P Green
4 th Jan	Mr A Thompson
11 th Jan	Mrs H Dunstan
25 th Jan	Mrs P Griffiths
1 st Feb	Miss S Griffiths

Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday 6th December

10.00am - 12noon

Usual stalls of cakes, tombola and books any donations very welcome.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Sunday 18th January 2009

6.00pm

at St Aidan's Church, Boosbeck

Please note there won't be a service at Lingdale URC

Lingdale Calendar

Wed 17th Dec 2.00pm Carols at Prospect Place - A service of carols and readings with all welcome

Weekly

3rd Sunday of month 5.00-6.30pm Messy Church.

4th Wednesday of month 2.00pm Worship at Prospect Place

Redcar

Of the family

'Thank you to all the members and friends We continue to think of Jack at Redcar URC for your encouragement and keep him in our prayers as and sympathy over recent weeks and for he prepares to make the move the love you have shown to both of us over at some point in the New Year the twenty-five years that we have wor- down to Mildenhall in Suffolk, shipped with you all.'

Jack Prime

Mini Bazaar

Thanks to all who helped in any way. The Mini Christmas Bazaar held on Saturday 8th November raised a grand total of £365, and great fun was had by all!

Catey

Memorial Service

Saturday 13th December – 11am

Remembering all who have died during the last year. Everyone welcome.

7th Redcar Scouts

Bazaar

**Saturday 6th December
10.00am - 12noon**

Tickets 50p includes tea/coffee and mince pie.

Christingle Service

Monday 15th December at 6pm

with the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

Afterwards everyone is invited to refreshments in the Church Hall – the children will be playing games.

Volunteers needed to make Christingles.

Joint Covenant Service

Sunday 18th January—10.30am

We will be joining our friends at Zetland Park Methodist Church at 10:30am along with St. Peter's Church for our joint Covenant Service when our own Rev. Catey will be the speaker.— No Service at our Church that day

Churches Together in Redcar

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Half hour services in these Churches:

Mon 19th Jan	12noon	Zetland Park Methodist
Tue 20th Jan	12noon	St Peter's Church
Wed 21st Jan	7.00pm	Baptist Church
Thu 22nd Jan	12noon	URC our own
Fri 23rd Jan	12noon	St Albans

Churches Together Evening Service

Sunday 25th January at 6pm

hosted by Redcar United Reformed Church
speaker from the Baptist Church.

Christmas Services

Sun 21st December

Morning Service will be a special family Christmas service. There will also be a Christmas lunch after Church. Tickets will be £5 to include soup, light main course and sweet.

Christmas Day Service

will be at 10.00am and will last about 30mins.

Jack's Diary - Missing

Well, someone left the gate open, what's a dog supposed to do, ignore the chance to explore pastures new? So with four sniffs and two cocks of the leg, I was out into the unknown, out where no dog has gone before, eagerly in pursuit of adventure.

Oh all those new smells and trees, what a treat! I wandered and wandered and suddenly nothing was familiar to me, I was lost and although it was very early in the morning, there was a lot of traffic and I was very frightened.

Unknown to me the family was already out looking for me, but in places where we usually go for walks.

Suddenly I spied bright lights, ah Tesco, I knew Tesco, then I caught sight of Maisie the Alsatian with her master who live near me. I thought I'll follow them and there I was in the avenue where I live and Bob coming to meet me. My goodness was I pleased to see him!

What was it 'Ole Blue Eyes' sang "It's awful nice to go travelling, but oh so nice to come home," except I didn't enjoy the travelling.

Do you know your way home? – John Ch.14 v.6 – Jesus answered "I am the way."

Redcar Calendar

There will be no POP IN ON Christmas Day or New Years Day.

Weekly

Thursday 9.30am Prayers
10.00-11.30am Pop-in Centre

A Tribute to Winsome Prime **2nd January 1922 – 11th October 2008**

Winsome was born on the 2nd of January 1922 in Ballywalter in County Down, Northern Ireland. Winsome was the youngest of four children, with a 13 year gap between her and her brother ahead of her in the family. Because of the age gap, Winsome did not really get to know her eldest brother, Jim, very well, for he worked away in Southern Ireland with the Ulster Bank. However, this was made up for in the torment Winsome received from her other brother, George, who was quite a pest, and her relationship with elder sister, Norah. But the reality is that for a large part of her life Winsome was effectively an only child, and appeared to have got away with quite a lot!

Winsome's mother and father were keen to ensure that all their four children had a good education despite her father being the minister of a country church, and they somehow managed to save enough money to achieve this goal. And so at school it would appear that Winsome was a high achiever, being very bright, with a whole raft of certificates to prove the point! She was also the Captain of the hockey team at school, and to top it off, was always very popular both at school and in the rest of her life.

Winsome would have gone on to study at University but then the war started and put pay to her plans. Instead she planned to go into the forces, which would have suited Winsome, but this plan too never came to fruition, as, with her mother now ailing, she had to stay to look after her father. So on leaving school Winsome instead took a job in the local bank in Ballywalter.

But if Winsome wasn't set to travel, well then, the world, or at least Jack, had to travel to find her, putting some local lad's noses out of joint in the process! Although when Jack first set eyes on Winsome she was actually in the arms of another man, albeit dancing with another man at the Saturday night dance in the village hall in Ballywalter. Being stationed in the war only 4 miles from Ballywalter, this is where Jack came to dance each Saturday night during his six month stationing. Having liked what he saw Jack asked Winsome for a dance and then arranged to meet her for a date. However, falling off a motorbike and breaking his arm the following day put pay to that plan, and he thought that was probably the end of that! However, in late August he met Winsome for the second time, when she came to the station for the Petty Officers Mess Dance. There

Jack got to dance with Winsome again and managed for the second time to arrange a date, and this time things took off from there.

With peace on the horizon, Jack wanted to ensure that Winsome would be with him after the war had ended and so only three months later, with Jack now stationed near Londonderry, Jack and Winsome got married on December 17th 1945.

After demobilisation, early married life for Winsome and Jack was spent living in the manse in Ballywalter, but it wasn't long before made the move to London, where Jack was from. But once in London, Jack and Winsome found themselves in the terrible position of having nowhere to stay. So much of London had been destroyed in the bombing, and then added to that, so many of those who had been demobbed were descending on London also seeking accommodation.

For Winsome this was a very difficult time, homesick for Northern Ireland and with nowhere to call home in England, although very much in love with Jack and wanting to be with him. Eventually they managed to get a flat, although in bad condition and they began to settle into life in London. And it wasn't long before daughters Alison, and then Rosemary, came along to make their lives complete! Her daughters were so important to Winsome, they were her life – this was what her life was for and she was an excellent mother to them!

All the time that Alison and Rosemary were at school Winsome remained at home, in order to be there for them, but after that Winsome returned to work to a job with Pearl Assurance. It was meant to have been a temporary job, but Winsome ended up staying there until her retirement.

However, this isn't all Winsome achieved in life. Winsome was also had a great love of badminton. She was an excellent badminton player, and was on her club's first team. Winsome was also a singer, having had training with a professional opera singer after leaving school. Winsome never made a big deal of her talents, she sang when asked, but it was always something purely for her own satisfaction. She always sang in church choirs and she could even accompany herself on the piano, for her musical talents included being a pianist, as well as an organist in church when needed!

Win's talents are going to be very much missed. She will be missed as a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, as well as a committed member of the church in Redcar for the last twenty-five years.

St Andrew's

Church Walk in November 2008

On the 1st November eight of us set out on a walk from Fangdale Beck at 10.30a.m. We parked in a lay-by close to St. John's Church.

We went through Fangdale Beck Village, over a foot-bridge across the stream and out into open fields. It was a mild morning with the sun shining when we entered Malkin Bower Farm. By this time we were walking down a foot path in knee deep mud and water after heavy overnight rain. Next we walked along the edge of the River Seph with Low Crossett coming into view on the other side of the river. As we left Helm House Wood a gentleman asked us if we could stop for a few minutes as the red flag signs were up. There were thirty men and ladies with several dogs running around shooting for pheasants. They put one of the dead pheasants up to my face to give me a closer look at it. We continued our walk along the River Seph and into Low Ewe Cote where we saw the people we had met loading their dead pheasants into their 4x4's with some of the dogs as well. We then did a bit of road walking and Hawnby Hill Crag came into view.

When we reached Wether Cote Farm we stopped to have a picnic looking right on to Helmsley Moor. After our picnic we started walking again still seeing the odd 4x4 full of dead pheasants coming past us. We walked towards Bilsdale Transmitting Station and climbed over a stone wall. At this point we started dipping down into the Fangdale Valley again looking towards Consier. As we climbed down I slipped and fell over in the mud!! Then we came back to Malkin Bower Farm and back to the cars again.

Grant Sutherland and Steven Etwell

Ladies Fellowship

We had a very interesting slide show from Jimmy Anderson on Chile and Easter Island at our last meeting. The statues were quite fascinating.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 14th January 2009 at 7.30pm when we will be having a talk from Rev C Morrison.

Churches Together

Coffee Morning

**Tuesday 9th December
10.00am – 12noon at**

Nunthorpe Methodist Church

Proceeds will go to Teesside Hospice.

Please support if you can. Donations of cakes for our stall would be gratefully received.

Christmas Concert

**Wednesday 10th December 2008
7.25p.m.**

Please come along and join in the carol singing.

Teas, coffees and mince pies will be served and there will also be a raffle.

Christmas Worship

Sunday 14th December

Toy and Parade Service at 9.30am

Unwrapped gifts for all ages up to and including teenagers will be gladly received. Wrapping paper will also be much appreciated.

Sunday 21st December

Morning Worship at 9.30am

will include input from our youngsters

Carols & Communion at 6:30pm

Christmas Eve

Christingle Service at 6:30pm

Christmas Day

Morning worship at 10.00am

Modern

If Christ is present in human life He is present all the time

Michael Taylor English Baptist, Director of Christian Aid (Late twentieth Century)

Churches Together - Prayer Cycle

A rota has been produced for use within churches each Sunday... and by individuals at home. Each week a different church or ministry within the Churches Together group will be high-lighted for prayer within local churches and at other times, perhaps by midweek fellowship groups or by individuals. Hence the rota for December and January are given here.

Week Beg. 7th Dec St Mary's C. Of E., Nunthorpe
 Week Beg. 14th Dec Nunthorpe Methodist Church
 Week Beg. 21st Dec St. Bernadette's R.C.
 Week Beg. 28th Dec St. Andrew's U.R.C.
 Week Beg. 4th Jan Marton Methodist Church
 Week Beg. 11th Jan St. Cuthbert's C. Of E., Marton
 Week beg. 18th Jan Pioneering Ministry in Coulby

Rev Nick Green is undertaking pioneering ministry within Coulby Newham as an Anglican priest. This work is included as it comes under the parish of St. Cuthbert's. Look out for Nick who opens a listening post in a unit in the In Shops in the Parkway Centre at regular times during the week.

Annual Bazaar

Our Annual Bazaar held on Saturday 15th November raised £443.56 for church funds. Many thanks to everyone who supported and helped to make this such a good total. Also thanks to the Boys' Brigade for setting up all the tables. It was greatly appreciated.

"The Gospel in a Pluralist Society"

First published in 1989, this book written by Lesslie Newbigin, a retired URC minister, was recommended by Rev Graham Peacock, speaking to the Ecumenical Fellowship of Aelred earlier this year. Marton library did not hold a copy, and rather than obtaining one on loan, purchased a new copy which I have had on loan for several weeks. It is not an easy read so I have had to re-stamp it in order to complete reading it in full, nevertheless I would certainly recommend it to anyone who is periodically involved in leading services of worship.

John Moore

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

18th – 25th January 2009

The week will begin on Sunday, 18th January with a joint service at Nunthorpe Methodist Church at 6.30pm.

Soup Lunches and prayer throughout the week are at the following venues:

Monday 19th: St. Cuthbert's C. of E.
 Tuesday 20th: Nunthorpe Methodist
 Wednesday 21st: St. Andrew's U.R.C.
 Thursday 22nd: St. Bernadette's R.C.
 Friday 23rd: St. Mary's C. of E.

More details nearer the time.

St Andrew's Calendar

Wed 17 Dec	2.30pm	Informal worship at Kirkley Lodge
Mon 22 Dec	3.00pm	Informal Worship at Elmridge
Christmas Eve	2.30pm	Carol Service at Kirkley Lodge - all welcome
Mon 19 Jan	3.00pm	Informal Worship at Elmridge
Wed 21 Jan	2.30pm	Informal worship at Kirkley Lodge

Weekly

Wednesday	9.30am	Prayers
Sunday	After Worship	Traid Craft Stall (Last Sunday in month)
Boys Brigade		Details available from ministers and church elders

Ancient

He undertook to help the descendants of Abraham, fashioning a body for himself from a woman and sharing our flesh and blood, so that we could see in him not only God, but also, because of this union, a man like ourselves.

Cyril of Alexandria Bishop (Fifth Century)

Preachers

		7-Dec	14-Dec	21-Dec	25-Dec	28-Dec
Marton	9.30am	M Robb Church Meet	M Robb Parade	M Robb	M Robb 10.00am	M Robb
	6.30pm			M Robb Communion		
Lintho	11.00am	K Harris	M Robb Parade	K Harris Communion	At Marton	M Robb
	6.30pm					
Guisbo	9.30am	C Morrison Communion	C Morrison	Guis Folk	K Harris 10.00am	K Harris
Redcar	11.00am	C Morrison	K Harris	C Morrison	C Morrison 10.00am	J Harper
Lingdale	6.00pm	C Price	M Robb Communion	Christingle Messy Church	C Morrison 11.00am	K Harris
		4-Jan	11-Jan	18-Jan	25-Jan	1-Feb
Marton	9.30am	C Morrison	C Morrison Parade	D Harris	K Harris Communion	J Harper
	6.30pm					
Lintho	11.00am	M Robb	C Morrison Parade	K Harris Communion	M Robb	K Harris
	6.30pm					
Guisbo	9.30am	K Harris Communion	M Robb	M Robb	C Morrison	C Morrison Communion
Redcar	11.00am	K Harris Communion	M Robb	Meth Church 10.30am	J Harper	C Morrison
Lingdale	6.00pm	K Martin	M Robb Messy Church	United Service St Aiden's	M Robb	C Morrison Communion

Ancient

Thus there was born true God in the entire and perfect nature of true man, complete in what is properly his, complete in what is ours.

Leo 1 Pope (Fifth century)

Material for the February Magazine to church editors by Sunday 11th January please
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