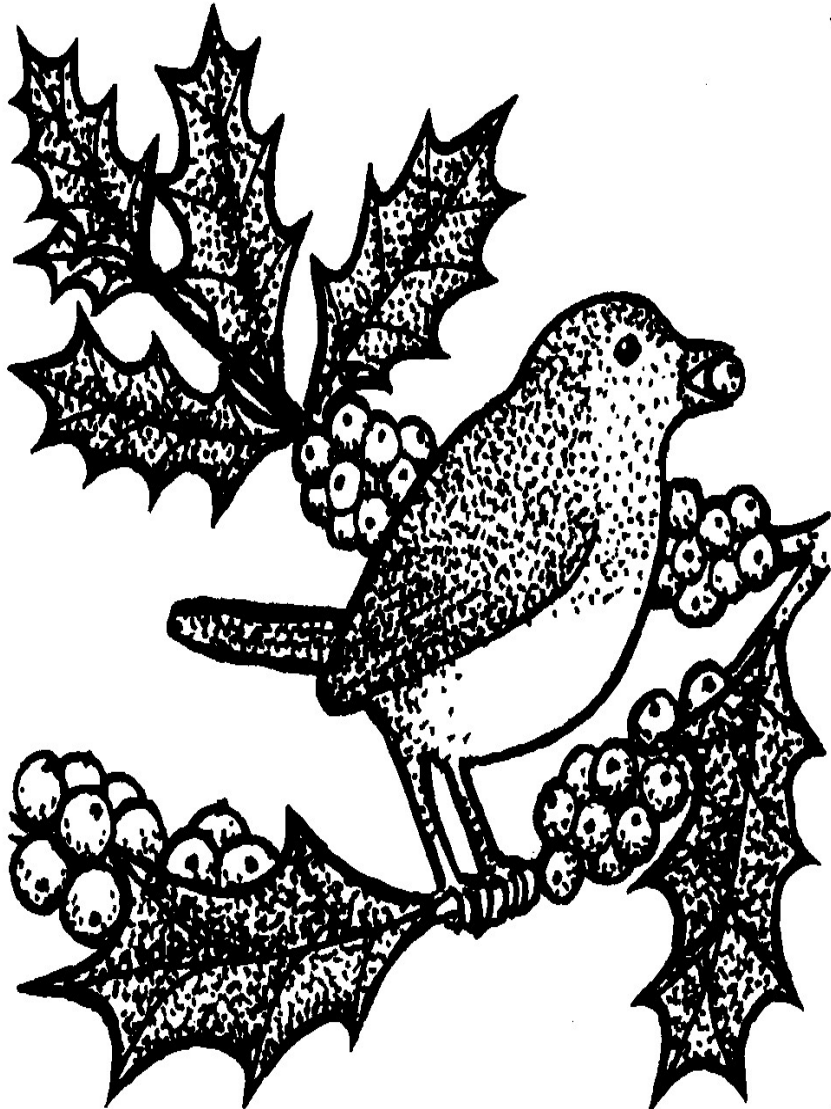


THE RIVERSIDE PARISHES

All Saints Hurworth Newsletter Dec 23/Jan 24

All Saints Hurworth, St John the Baptist Low Dinsdale and All Saints Girsby,
working with St George and St Lawrence, Middleton St George



Thought for the month.

Imagine being arrested for a crime you didn't commit. Imagine being convicted for that crime, and serving time in prison for it.

There have been so many miscarriages of justice in recent times, but we seldom hear of the aftermath of those incidents and the healing forgiveness which takes place between the innocent victim and the 'system/those in authority'.

Those victims often recount their hope for true justice whilst in prison and, in moments of solitude, tell of their petitions to God. And in the midst of their suffering, their prayers were answered.

This Christmas sees our beautiful world in far too much turmoil. Wars are being waged, migrants are fleeing from persecution, society perhaps more divided than ever. We might as well just give up! What's the point?

Well, the most significant birth ever took place just over 2000 years ago. A lowly couple, living in poverty, forced to flee persecution and almost certainly the death of their child if Herod had found him.

A Jewish boy, the Son of God - Jesus returned to his homeland in the following years, studied scripture and began the most audacious act of inclusion ever undertaken. He mingled with those his society claimed he shouldn't. He approached those most vulnerable in society and **he loved them.**

And as a result of his actions, he was sentenced to death for crimes he had not committed. But he defeated death and tyranny; he overcame those in authority through his glorious resurrection. **Jesus' life was a life of true hope.**

Even through his lowly beginnings, his time spent in Egypt and even his return to Jerusalem to face certain death, there was hope – real hope of salvation, salvation for all of us.

Christmas/New Year is often a time to reflect on the year gone by, so let the birth of Christ be our true hope again for peace in our time and a brighter future for 2024.

Pete Snowden

**DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO WOULD BENEFIT FROM
ACCESS TO A FOODBANK?**

The Riverside Parishes Churches have combined forces to provide food parcels to local residents who may be struggling to put food on the table in these difficult times.

For more information in confidence
call Jill Bramwell on 07818 418499 or 01325 721863

WHAT'S ON OFFER FOR OUR YOUNGSTERS?



All Saints Church Young Peoples activities
10.30am every Sunday

Hurworth Friday Hangout & Friday Night Drop In
All Saints Church Centre

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT at ALL SAINTS CHURCH
with**

RHAPSODY CHOIR

WED. 6TH DEC @ 7pm

Come along and join in with Christmas Carols and more

Led by MD Janine Busbridge

Accompanist Paul Austin

Tickets @ £8

Enjoy a great selection of festive music with refreshments and raffle

ZOOM WORSHIP

The 10.30 Services at All Saints Hurworth are available on Zoom. For joining instructions contact:
juliahclarke@aol.com

From the Parish Records

Funerals

October 24th Hurworth
Olive Elliott
aged 99 years



All Saints Autumn Fair

UNCLAIMED RAFFLE PRIZES

If you hold the following raffle tickets there is a prize waiting for you:

Green 883, Green 890, Green 402

To claim your prize ring Jill on 07818 418499

THE HURWORTH ROGERS CHARITABLE TRUST **Supporting The Community**

Hurworth community groups and residents are welcome to apply to the Trust.

We give grants to a broad range of projects and to individual residents in need who are:

Elderly

Have mental health issues

Young people wishing to achieve their physical, intellectual or spiritual potential

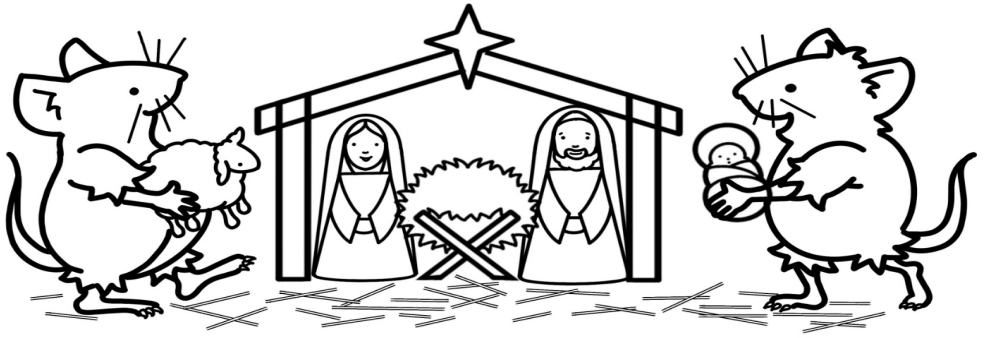
Or, feel that something would be beneficial to the common good of the people of Hurworth

Applying to the Trust is very straightforward.

If you think the trust may be able to help you or your community project please contact:

Mrs Milly Stoney, Trust Sec, 2 West End. Hurworth
milly.stoney@outlook.com

The Trust is always delighted to receive donations which will further support the community



Christmas Prayer 2023

Almighty Father,

Thank you for your indescribable gift of Jesus – the Light of the world. Thank you that He brought light and life to all who received Him during His life on earth and that He still brings light and life to all who receive Him.

Lord, how this broken world needs your light today. As we rejoice and give thanks for Christmas, we pray that the light of Jesus will pierce the darkness of self-interest and hatred – and change the hearts of those who do not love you or their neighbours.

We pray that by the power of your Holy Spirit you will deliver your people from evil, and that Your kingdom will come on earth as in heaven. Thank you, Father, that because of Jesus, light will always shine in the darkness and the darkness will never be able to extinguish it.

Glory and thanks and praise to You Father God, this Christmas and always. In Jesus' saving and powerful name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching



Church Services in Hurworth,



Middleton St George, Low Dinsdale and Girsby

December 2023

Sun 3 rd	Girsby	9.00 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
	MSG Academy	10.00 ^{AM}	Service of the Word
	Hurworth	10.30 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
Thurs 7 th	Hurworth	8.00 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer
Sun 10 th	Hurworth	8.00 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
	MSG Academy	10.00 ^{AM}	Service of the Word
	Hurworth	10.30 ^{AM}	Morning Worship
	Low Dinsdale	4.00 ^{PM}	Christingle Service
Thurs 14 th	Hurworth	8.00 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer
Sun 17 th	Hurworth	8.00 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
	MSG Academy	10.00 ^{AM}	Service of the Word
	Hurworth	10.30 ^{AM}	Carol Service
	St Georges Low Middleton	3.00 ^{AM}	Carol Service
Thurs 21 st	Hurworth	8.00 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer
Sun 24 th	MSG Academy	10.00 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
	Hurworth	10.30 ^{AM}	Morning Worship
	Hurworth	4.00 ^{PM}	Christingle Service
	Girsby	7.00 ^{PM}	Carol Service
	Hurworth	11.30 ^{PM}	Midnight Mass Communion
Christmas Day	MSG Academy	10.00 ^{AM}	Riverside Christmas Communion
Thurs 28 th	Hurworth	8.00 ^{AM}	Morning Prayer
Sun 31 st	Hurworth	8.00 ^{AM}	Holy Communion
	MSG Academy	10.00 ^{AM}	Service of the Word
	Hurworth	10.30 ^{AM}	Morning Worship



Church Services in Hurworth,



Middleton St George, Low Dinsdale and Girsby

January 2024

Thurs 4 th	Hurworth	8.00 AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 7 th	Girsby	9.00AM	Holy Communion
	MSG Academy	10.00AM	Service of the Word
	Hurworth	10.30AM	Holy Communion
	Low Dinsdale	4.00PM	Evensong
Thurs 11 th	Hurworth	8.00AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 14 th	Hurworth	8.00AM	Holy Communion
	MSG Academy	10.00AM	Service of the Word
	Hurworth	10.30AM	Morning Worship
Thurs 18 th	Hurworth	8.00AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 21 st	Hurworth	8.00AM	Holy Communion
	MSG Academy	10.00AM	Service of the Word
	Hurworth	10.30AM	All Age Worship
Thurs 25 th	Hurworth	8.00AM	Morning Prayer
Sun 28 th	Hurworth	8.00AM	Holy Communion
	MSG Academy	10.00AM	Holy Communion
	Hurworth	10.30AM	Morning Worship



Little donkey, little donkey

You are bound to sing about donkeys this Christmas, especially the little one that carried Mary to Bethlehem! But how much do you know about donkeys? They are really rather special.

Here are some fun facts:

1. There are more than 44 million donkeys in the world, of all shapes and sizes.
2. There are more than 186 breeds of donkey.
3. Donkeys have good memories. They can remember places and other donkeys even 25 years after they last saw them.
4. Donkeys are not stubborn, they are cautious. If they are fearful about something, they will do their best to avoid it.
5. Donkeys are naturally clean. Given the chance, they are always grooming themselves and each other.
6. Donkeys like to be warm and dry. They come from deserts and savannahs.
7. Donkeys are social. They make deep bonds with their family and herd and get very upset if someone they love is taken from them.
8. Donkeys have big ears for a good reason – it means they can hear each other at a great distance. They communicate by braying, grunting, whiffing, squealing and snorting.
9. Donkeys help the ecology of their desert homes by digging into the ground to access water. This provides little creatures such as birds and chipmunks with life-saving water.
10. Donkeys need your help. Millions round the world are being mistreated, and you can take action to help them.



Christmas

Tree

Festival

at

All Saints Church
Hurworth

8-10th December 2023

6-9pm Friday 8th

10am-4pm Saturday 9th

12-4pm Sunday 10th

Tree lights officially switched
on at 7pm Friday by
Rev. Anthony Smith

Tea, coffee, mulled wine, cakes & mince
pies available

Donations on entry to charity & church
funds.

CHRISTMAS 2023

There is so much I enjoy about Christmas. But there are also things I don't enjoy... (stone me with marshmallows!)

I love Christmas because it is usually (for most) a happy time with family celebrations; uplifting feel good songs, angelic choruses, weird family members visiting, funny dramas with donkeys and kids with towels around their heads while holding oranges, and Christmas services where you guaranteed to know at least one of the songs. All good stuff!

I value the Advent waiting. But I also do not much like waiting.

I like the truths of Christmas, but I often sense a deep disconnection between these truths and the commercialism and hype that comes with it. I personally struggle intellectually with some of the narratives of Christmas, some of the inconsistencies recorded in the Gospels and feel that Christmas is regularly reduced to stories of worried virgins, angelic choruses and star guided shepherds. Isn't there so much more to Christmas? **There is something we are missing: the deep truth that God really is with us.**

I also know that for some being in crisis or grief at Christmas is complicated. I pray for those families who know that this may well be their last Christmas with an unwell family member. I also recognise and see God's heart for those simply unable to give gifts or share elaborate meals.

I love the family, the community, the church services, but I also do not enjoy the time spent rushing, hurrying, planning, and cooking. I love the Quality streets, but I really do not like it when it feels I have eaten my body's equivalent weight in chocolate.

I love gift giving, I love the joy of watching a child open a carefully chosen gift. I do not like that awkward silence when you get a gift wrong or leave the price on...again...like I did last year!

So, this Christmas may I invite you to remember that **Christmas is the greatest act of love God could ever perform** and may we know that out of our ordinary acts, in our ordinary lives, the world-transforming, extraordinary love of God can shine through.

May your Christmas this year be a little out of the ordinary this year.

Rev Brian Hutton



DINSDALE PROPERTY SERVICES

Pete Snowden - Handyman

For all those jobs (both little and large - no job too small) that tradesmen just won't turn out for!



decorating, tiling, renovations, bathrooms, kitchens, gardening, plumbing ...

07340 645440

petesnowden@hotmail.com

The Old School, Low Dinsdale

LUCY'S PILATES

Classes at
**The Mustard Tree in
Hurworth**

Classes on Sundays and
Mondays.

Suitable for all abilities.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL!

For more information call
Lucy on 07944 037515

lucypilates@gmail.com



We've got online carol-singers again!

ATC PEST CONTROL

Call our LOCAL pest control engineer

ANDREW CHANDLER



Wasps Nests removal from
£40

For FREE advice and a prompt,
friendly and discreet service

RING 01325 787437
(mobile) 07929 479288

Newsletter Information

This Newsletter is compiled and printed by members of All Saints Church Hurworth and distributed by a team of volunteers in the spirit of Christians Working Together in Hurworth and the surrounding villages.

Appropriate copy is always welcome as are offers to assist with the distribution to our growing community.

All copy for the Newsletter, including events, articles for publication, advertisement design or payment **MUST** be received by 10th of the previous month at the latest, or inclusion may not be possible

Advertising rates are as follows :-

Quarter page - 1 insertion £18, 5 (half year) £82.50 10 (1 year) £160

Half page insertions £35 each, £155 per half year

Editors Contact details :-

Denis Pinnegar - Email denispinnegar@aol.com

Tel 01325 720835

A.W Tree Care

Tree & Hedge Professionals

Time Served Royal Horticultural Society Arborist

Tree Felling, Dismantling & Pruning - Hedge Cutting

Stump Removal - Grinding - Site/Garden Clearance

Tree Inspections and Reports - Woodland Management

T -01740 620216

M - 07544 802052

Alexander Walker TechArborA., ND Arb., SOC Arb

Fully Insured
All Aspects of Tree
Work Undertaken



Electrician



Do you find it difficult to get someone to come and do a small job?

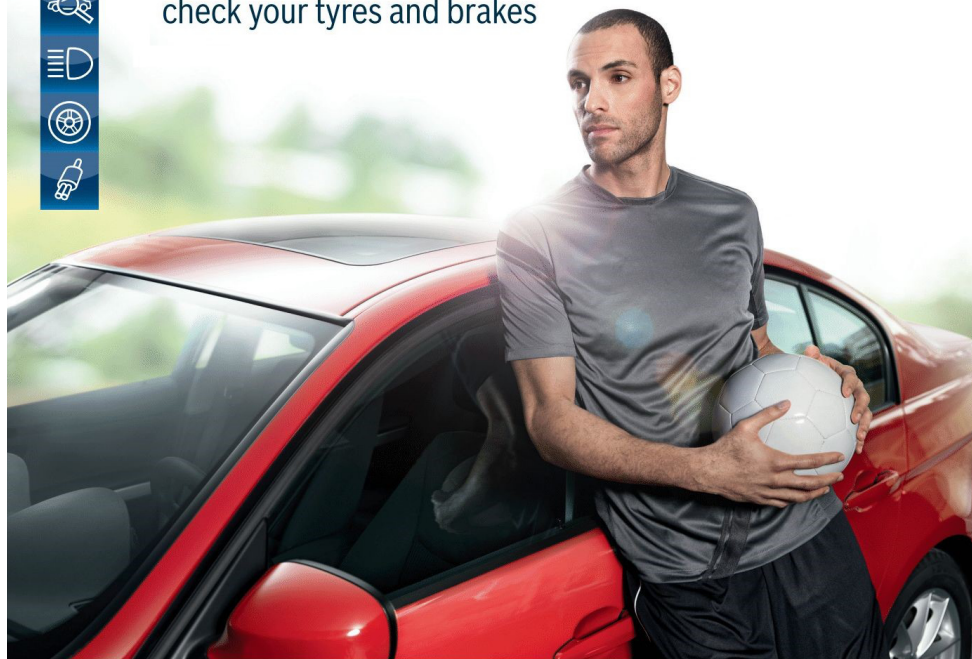
- ◆ Fault Finding / Repairs
- ◆ Extra lights and sockets
- ◆ New Fuse Boards
- ◆ Rewires
- ◆ P.A.T Testing
- ◆ Landlord Inspections
- ◆ Qualified Electrician
- ◆ Fully Insured
- ◆ Reliable Service
- ◆ Tidy Work
- ◆ Free Quote
- ◆ Satisfaction Guaranteed

Call Steve on 01325 244491 or 07809 771623



Stay safe in all weather conditions

check your tyres and brakes



Contact us today and make an appointment for your next service. We will make sure that your car is going to thank you.

Oxford Garage Hurworth

27 Hurworth Road

Hurworth Place

Darlington DL2 2DF

Phone: 01325 720231 – info@oxford-garage.co.uk



Oxford Garage



CLEAR LEGAL ADVICE

Family & Divorce | Property Purchase & Sales
Wills, Probate & Family Trusts | Armed Forces Community

CW

SOLICITORS

Darlington
01325 281111
Email enquiries@clarkwillis.co.uk

Northallerton
01609 765765
Email enquiries@clarkwillis.co.uk

www.clarkwillis.com



/clarkwillisllp



@EnquiriesWillis



ClarkWillisLaw

ANDREW DARGUE

Stone | Brick | Paving | Repairs

**LOCAL BUILDER
DECADES OF EXPERIENCE**



Tel: **01325 721329**

Mobile: **07762 270959**



Email: **andrewdargue61@gmail.com**

CONTACT DETAILS

Priest in Charge: Revd. Anthony Smith (01325 262122)

Email: Anthony.Smith@durham.anglican.org

Hurworth Church Wardens

Julia Clarke 01325 720662

Email addresses :

juliahclarke@aol.com

Lay Readers

Paul Mallett 01325 722089

mallett26@hotmail.com

Pete Snowden 07340 645440

petesnowden@hotmail.com

Authorised Pastoral Assistant

Jill Bramwell 01325 721863

bramwelljill@hotmail.com

Hurworth Baptisms -initial contact:

Jill Bramwell 01325 721863

bramwelljill@hotmail.com

Hurworth Weddings

Revd Anthony Smith 01325 262122

Anthony.Smith@durham.anglican.org

Hurworth Funerals

Revd Anthony Smith 01325 262122

Anthony.Smith@durham.anglican.org

Dinsdale Church Warden

Reuben Robson 01325 332439

bridgetmaclean@supanet.com

Girsby Church Wardens

Allen Harrison 01609 881534

harrisoncanda@hotmail.co.uk

Jane Alderson 01609 881305

pommiegrannie@gmail.com

Middleton St George Church Wardens

Dave McKittrick 07963 678021

djmckittrick1@hotmail.com

Rodger Sansom 01325 401850

rodger@sansomfamily.org

(For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals in Dinsdale, Girsby & MSG please contact the appropriate Church Warden initially)

“Where there is only one set
of footprints, that is where I
have carried you”.

