

St. George's  
Jesmond



*A worshipping community: inclusive, nurturing, engaged*

# THE LANCE

June 2024



[www.stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](http://www.stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)



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# Editorial

Jesmond has very little open space. The Green has become a focus for many people, either sitting in the sunshine, playing with their children, exercising their dogs or hosting events for the church and others. In this decade, 80% of people live in towns and cities in this country. In 10 years, the figure will go up to 90%. For urban dwellers therefore, green spaces, parks and gardens will take on a more important role.

So how is our church enhancing this rare facility? Firstly, there is the need to protect what wildlife we have, including insects. The Green belongs to the church but we have an understanding with the Council that in return for the Council mowing the Green, we make it available to the public. There are two areas to be mown, one is the open grass and the other, the area inbetween the trees. The Council already operate a 'No Mow May' policy. This has been extended by agreement so that the tree area is left until later in the summer allowing grasses and flowers to seed, providing food and cover for birds and invertebrates.

A second aspect was to create rewilding areas. After discussion, an area at the back of the gravel carpark has been largely cleared by the Tuesday Group. It needs further work and an application for funding was made to the Community Foundation but turned down. When it happens, bug hotels, wildflowers and a small water bath will be introduced.

Thirdly, we want to improve the safety of the Green for toddlers, especially with a main road so close. In addition to better fencing, there is the hope to introduce EV charging points and we are waiting to hear back from Parish Buying as to how this can be funded. God gave humanity 'dominion..... over all the wild animals of the Earth' and by protecting the rare open space of our Green, with care and thought, we try to fulfil this commandment.

**Margaret Vane**

**One of the candidates for Vicar promises a new approach to services if chosen**

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# Letter from the Clergy



Do you remember your confirmation? For most of us, baptism is only remembered through what others tell us (apparently, I screamed a lot, as the church was dark); but many of us may remember confirmation; one friend retained her confirmation veil from the glorious St Mary's, Tyne Dock. It is perhaps a great Anglican reassurance that most efforts at "comparing notes" between confirmation classes finds almost no overlap: we have received a great diversity of spiritual inheritance.

My late Godfather's confirmation was at Whitsun 1945, with First Communion on Trinity Sunday – the same month as VE Day – and I treasure his mementos of this; I thanked him one recent Michaelmas, on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my Baptism, and he said "That's gone quick, hasn't it?".

Confirmation was, for many of us, our first exposure to more reflection on the Holy Spirit than the isolated starburst of Whit Sunday. Some may mourn the loss of the "long Sundays after Trinity" from the Church's calendar, but having a season of Pentecost now reminds us that the majority of the Church's Year is not given to the condensed commemorations of Christ from Christmas to Easter, but to our new life in Him and the power of the Spirit He offers each of us.

I find I need to continually re-seek the Spirit's counsel, wisdom and focus on God in Christ; for some the gift of "habitual recollection" of God comes easier than for others. Life may not always be flying "straight and level", and we need regular recalibration to the consistent character of Christ.

For those confirmed later in life, one priest advised sealing in an envelope, notes of anything which one wanted to leave behind at that stage in one's life – whether things that had happened to you, or things you had done – which he would then burn at the next Easter vigil, linking the risen life of Christ with our new life in His Spirit. (A later vicar merely wanted to burn my cassock – I was unclear whether I was expected to be inside it at the time!)

The traditional order for confirmation is not just the single “plonk” that we might expect, but a prayer for lifelong growth in God, a most ambitious asking that we may increase *daily* in God’s Spirit, in all His manifold gifts and graces. Hollingsworth’s *Spirituality of Jane Austen* suggests that her best characters are those who change, grow and develop; while her less attractive characters (such as Lady Catherine de Bourgh!) do not.

Whenever and how ever you commemorate your Christening and Confirmation, may this season of Pentecost be one of growth and increase for each of us, and us all.

*Almighty and ever living God, who hast vouchsafed to regenerate these thy servants by water and the Holy Ghost, and hast given unto them forgiveness of all their sins: strengthen them, we beseech thee, O Lord, with the Holy Ghost the Comforter, and daily increase in them thy manifold gifts of grace; the spirit of wisdom and understanding; the spirit of counsel and ghostly strength; the spirit of knowledge and true godliness; and fill them, O Lord, with the spirit of thy holy fear, now and for ever. **Amen.***

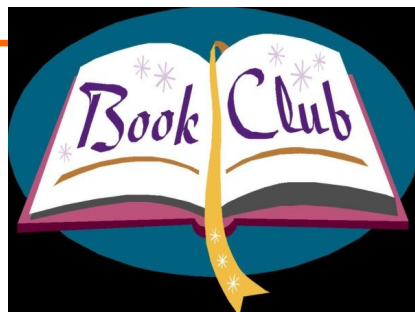
*Defend, O Lord, this thy Servant N... with thy heavenly grace, that they may continue thine for ever; and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit, more and more, until they come unto thy everlasting kingdom. **Amen.***

**Malcolm Toft**

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## St George’s Book Group

The next meeting of the church book group is on Wednesday 26 June at 7.30pm in the Winskill Room.



The book is ‘Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow’ by Gabrielle Zevin.

# The Wedding of George and Mary Collins

## July 1938

It has everything you'd hope to see in a wedding video: a beautiful bride and handsome groom, radiant bridesmaids, joyful guests, a fabulous setting... and all of it filmed in glorious colour. I have always enjoyed watching old films of Newcastle, so I was delighted when I came across two home movies on the Yorkshire Film Archive website featuring a 1938 wedding at St George's Church, followed by a reception at a local hotel. In fact I enjoyed them so much that that I decided to investigate them further. In doing so I made a few interesting discoveries, including a surprising true-life story about a descendent of the happy couple.

### St George's Church, 1938

The film shows the wedding of Mr G.L.R. Collins and Miss M. Barnes (George and Mary) on a breezy July day in 1938. It is reassuring how little the church and its surroundings have changed after all these years. The film opens with a view across the green, followed by extensive shots of guests arriving from the direction of the church hall, and choir boys heading into the vestry. The



bride, groom, bridesmaids, and groomsmen wouldn't look out of place in a wedding today; however, many of the other guests are dressed more typically in the style of the 1930s, with fox fur stoles, bowler hats, and upturned collars much on show.

### The Newly-weds, George and Mary Collins



Following the marriage the couple and their guests head off to the Gordon Hotel on Clayton Road for the reception. They gather on the front lawn for photographs, where the ferocity of the stiff summer breeze becomes especially apparent and everyone is forced to hang onto their hats. I have uncovered very little about the hotel, but it seems to be located on the site of the present day YWCA buildings. Do any readers of *The Lance* remember the Gordon Hotel, or know anything about it?

The reception seems to be a lavish affair, judging by the multi-tiered cake and fleeting glimpses of bountiful food, champagne, and cups of tea, all served by uniformed waiters and waitresses. Afterwards, surrounded by waving guests and a blizzard of confetti, the newly-weds climb into their wedding car and drive off towards the familiar postbox at the junction of Clayton Road and Akenside Terrace.

It was this car that inspired me to do some background research. In a moment of idle curiosity I put the number plate (AYH100) into Google, not really expecting to find anything, but was surprised to come across quite a bit of information about the vehicle.

### **Mr and Mrs Collins head off down Clayton Road on their honeymoon**



### **Clayton Road today**

The car George is driving is actually a Rolls Royce Phantom II, built in 1934. At some point in the years following the wedding it ended up in the USA. How it got there and what happened to it subsequently is anyone's guess, but in 1964 a collector found it in a dilapidated state in a barn in Northeast Ohio. He bought it and drove it 400 miles to his home in Illinois, where he restored it. This was only the beginning, however, and since then it has undergone numerous restorations, and been used extensively

as a wedding hire car. It last sold in August 2015 for \$1,650,000 and is now in a private collection in California. I wish my old cars lasted so long and were worth that much...

### **The Rolls-Royce Phantom II Continental in 1938**



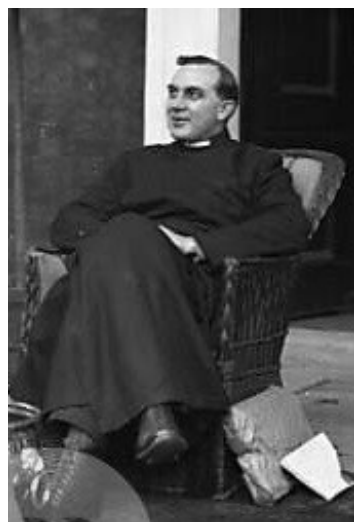
### **The same Rolls Royce, still being used as a wedding car in the USA**

These discoveries led me onto further research. The Vicar at the time, whose name appears on the outside notice board early in the film, was The Reverend John Walker Woodhouse MA. Note that his name is also visible now on the wooden board hanging at the back of the church showing past Vicars of St George's.

Rev Woodhouse was born in 1884, was educated at Charterhouse public school and Oxford University, and began his ecclesiastical career in Portsmouth. He then worked in a variety of places in southern England, before serving as a military chaplain in the First World War, which included an eight month spell in France. After the war he became a vicar in Lambeth, before moving north to St George's in 1934.

### **Reverend J. W. Woodhouse (1884 – 1955)**

I wonder what prompted his northerly migration? He didn't stay long though, for in 1942 he headed south





again, serving first in Huddersfield, before he eventually became Bishop of Thetford and Archdeacon of Lynn, in Norfolk. He died in 1955 after a short retirement.

The most important part of all weddings is of course the couple who are tying the knot and this one is no exception. I approached this carefully, knowing that George and Mary would no longer be alive, but would still be much loved and fondly remembered by their family. Although my early attempts yielded no information, it was only when I read that George's middle names were "Laxton Robson" that I was able to find out a little bit about them.

I found this information in an old newspaper clipping announcing George and Mary's forthcoming wedding. Another search revealed that George's father – acting Bombardier William Ambrose Collins of the Royal Field Artillery – was killed during the opening stages of the Battle of the Somme in 1916, aged just nineteen. He left behind his wife Dora and their three month old son George. Young George was subsequently raised by his grandparents, George and Jane Collins, from Birtley near Chester-le-Street.

I was saddened by this discovery, which was a timely reminder that I was looking into the lives of real people. I have often since wondered how the people appearing in the film were affected by World War Two, the outbreak of which was only one year away.

Whilst reading about George's father on a First World War memorial website, I came across a few comments left by a daughter and two sons of George and Mary. At this point I decided to contact one of them to tell them about my research and my intention to write an article for The Lance. It seemed right to seek the blessing of someone within the family before going ahead.

I therefore emailed the daughter of George and Mary, a lovely lady called Jennifer Rowe, who lives in the south of England. It was during our communications that I learned a few extra things, including the remarkable story of two of her own sons, who are obviously grandsons of George and Mary.

Jennifer was born in Whitley Bay and lived for a time in Jesmond. She went on to have three sons, two of whom – Alex and Mark – are twins. They were born in Newcastle in 1966 and as youngsters they both developed an ambition to join the armed

forces. Eventually both were accepted for officer training at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, which in itself was a major achievement. Unfortunately, however, Alex had suffered a detached retina at the age of 13, which prevented him from taking up his place at Sandhurst on medical grounds. Mark, meanwhile, joined the Army and became an officer in the Royal Engineers.

Alex was undeterred and decided to try and join the French Foreign Legion, who had different rules regarding certain previous medical conditions. At the age of 21, and with his mother's blessing, he travelled to Marseilles to join up and began their notoriously tough training regime. He successfully completed this and began a career with the Legion.

After many years of service he went on to become the most decorated serving legionnaire of any nationality, and the most decorated British legionnaire of all time. Furthermore, in 2010 he was awarded France's highest military honour, the Légion d'honneur, following service in Afghanistan. This was a remarkable achievement, of which his grandparents, George and Mary, would surely have been very proud; as they would have been of his twin brother Mark, who enjoyed a long and successful career in the British Army.

Researching and writing this article has been a rewarding experience. What started as a purely historical interest in an old film soon developed into something deeper, particularly as I learned about the lives of the bride and groom and their descendants. Occasionally, when I am standing at the entrance to the church, where much of the filming took place, I think of them and reflect on their happy day, and the years and events that followed.

You can watch the films on the Yorkshire Film Archive (YFA) website via the following links:

Church: <https://www.yfanefa.com/record/19780>

Reception: <https://www.yfanefa.com/record/25714>

**Kevin Burn**

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# Ten Things That You May Not Have Known About St George's!

If you missed it, the fascinating talk given by John North, a City Guide, last month about the history of St George's and its 19<sup>th</sup> century community, contained many 'big reveal' items, some of which are below:

- 1. What was the origin of the name, St George's?** George was the middle name of Algernon George Percy, the 5<sup>th</sup> Duke of Northumberland, in whose name was built the grand St George's Church at Tynemouth [Cullercoats] completed 1884. The temporary iron church used in Cullercoats before the grand church was built, was called St George's (after the Fifth Duke of Northumberland). This name then transferred to the new Cullercoats church completed in 1884. When the iron church came to Jesmond, as a temporary church, it brought this name with it. Here it was decided to keep this name. This is why St George's, Jesmond, has its present name.
- 2. There was an iron church on the site of St George's, Jesmond, before the building of the present church commenced.** This had previously been in place as the temporary St George's Church in Cullercoats [see above].
- 3. There was a cricket pitch behind the present church.** It is now the tennis courts etc.
- 4. The architect, Thomas Spence, visited Venice** and saw St Mark's and the campanile there, and was inspired to copy the design in Jesmond. The original campanile in Venice collapsed in 1902 and was replaced. Our bell tower is therefore older than the present bell tower in Venice.
- 5. Field Marshal Haig stayed at the home of the Mitchell family,** Jesmond Towers, to officially unveil the War Memorial in Eldon Square. Bemersyde is the name of General Haig's home in Scotland.
- 6. The cross on the top of the tower used to be 30 foot tall i.e. 15 feet taller than the current cross.** This became badly corroded and was removed in

1960. There was no cross at all until the modern 15 foot cross was erected in 1965.

**7. It is said that the bell tower can be seen from the hills of Rothbury!**

**8. Jesmond was originally built to be largely residential** and the employment of people working in Jesmond then was mainly as domestic servants. In 1901, 85% of people living in Sanderson Road had servants. There were a few exceptions which provided employment e.g the many churches, shops and schools. The three large charitable institutions facing the Town Moor also gave employment.

**9. While Charles Mitchell paid for the construction and decoration of St George's**, at a cost of £30,000 [£5 million in today's money], he left no endowment to meet its running costs.

**10. The deaths in the First World War** of 43 members of the congregation of St George's are commemorated on the memorial plaque in the north aisle of the church.

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# The Spring Fair

Another year, another May and here we are again, struggling with the poles and tents of the church's grand collection of amorphous gazebos on a Friday night. Tom Furness, with his magical spreadsheets organized us. Annabel Furness created the very pretty poster. The church, having agreed to launch the Jesmond Festival at the fair, laid on bell ringing and our resident Town Crier, Marjorie. Chris Clarke opened the proceedings for the festival.



It drizzled, of course, but, steadily, throughout the day, the crowds came and we raised about £4,400 towards church expenses.



This year our Bishop, Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley, kindly opened the fete and there were entertainments throughout the afternoon.

We were treated to an exemplary display of Irish dancing from young people who had won prizes at world competitions.



Music was provided by the Newcastle Concert Band





And the day opened with a tuneful display from the Steel Band.

While some stalls did not appear, the usual suspects like the bookstall were in attendance. The plant stall, although suffering from the early date of the fair meaning that fewer plants had reached sale-maturity, did well.



Brent on his inimical 'Make Me An Offer' stall did good business. Bat the Rat, with its mixture of sweeties and extreme violence was once again a favourite with children. The cake stall was quite laden with baked goods, much to Lorna's delight and amazement and sold out!



There was some talk from nameless stirrers that the handy police cell in the Police van attending would have been a good



place to put the church wardens, but the police couldn't be persuaded.

The tea room and its hard-working team of stalwarts did brisk business and many a traditional cream tea was shifted during the afternoon.



The much-anticipated bottle stall doubled with the tombola, selling double the tickets it usually did!

But the financial engine of the whole enterprise was the raffle, as usual, organized by Julian Plumley.



Rev. Bryan Vernon channelled 'Granchester' and elegantly stepped forward with straw hat and linen jacket to call the raffle, ably supported by his grandson, James. And the coveted first prize of a Barbour jacket went to the Hedworth family! Thank you everyone who helped and everyone who attended. The Spring Fair is such a successful community event.

People relax and are fed and entertained, and children can play naturally, on the Green. There are even happy dogs! A brass band. A scone with cream and jam. A bargain. Some entertainment. A flutter on the raffle. Sheer bliss. Summer is launched. Please tell the weather.



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# May Caption Competition: Answer 1

I'm not sleeping on the brush,  
I'm wondering how to use it!

**B. Swinburne**

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## Lunchtime Concerts

St George's Jesmond, NE 2 2TF  
Fridays, 13.00-13.45

**17 May:**  
Drew Cantrill-Fenwick (organ)

**24 May:**  
Alexandra Lee (soprano)  
James Hall (organ)

**31 May:**  
Drew Cantrill-Fenwick (organ)

**7 June:**  
Clare Crinson (flute)  
Alison Gill (piano)

**14 June:**  
Laura Oldfield (mezzo-soprano)  
Alex Guthrie (piano)

**21 June:**  
Rachel Miller (viola)  
Ben Newton (piano)

**28 June:**  
Harry Keeble (jazz saxophone)  
Dean Stockdale (piano)

**"Letters  
Column"**



### **Janet, we've got some fantastic news!**

With your help, PCC St Georges, Jesmond have just raised another £100 in free funds.

They've now raised an amazing £409.90 via Give as you Live - this is all down to people like you generating free donations every time you shop.

From [booking holidays](#) and [switching utility providers](#) to shopping for those [monthly essentials for your family](#) and your [four-legged friends](#), there are plenty of ways you can keep raising vital funds for PCC St Georges, Jesmond with Give as you Live Online.

**Did you know, for every friend you invite, you could raise another £5 for PCC St Georges, Jesmond ?** Click the button below to invite your friends, family and colleagues to use Give as you Live Online.



**St Oswald's  
Hospice**

Quality time  
for everyone



Hi Enid,

It was lovely seeing you this morning, and thank you again for dropping all of your collected stamps and coins off, it really does help with raising funds for the Hospice!

I've just checked with my colleague there and she says that since the start of this year, a total of **£1,200** has been raised already from selling on the coins and stamps to collectors – which is an incredible total as usually this only averages to around £800 for the whole year!

Since 1995, a whopping total of **£22,000** has been raised from donated stamps and coins alone with the help of our lovely volunteer, Neil, who's in charge of sourcing through everything and either selling on the stamps to collectors, or working with the banks to trade the money through them back to GBP.

I hope this helps with your newsletter if you'd like to write a little piece on this. And please send all of our thanks to everyone who donated their stamps and coins to you over these past few months as we truly do appreciate it.

Kindest regards,  
Bethany

**Bethany George**

Fundraising Co-ordinator

**0191 285 0063** ext. 2123

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**[stoswaldsuk.org](http://stoswaldsuk.org)**

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**[Did you know? We are the largest Lymphoedema centre in the North East of England. Ctrl-Click here to find out more.](#)**



# New and Updated Policies to be Aware Of

There are 5 new and updated policies, uploaded on to the St George's website, which relate to different aspects of the running of the church.

The policies relate to;

1. Health and safety
2. Safeguarding
3. Lone worker
4. Legacies
5. Conflict of interest

Legacy - <https://www.stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Legacy-Policy-St-Georges-approved-240513.pdf>

Lone worker - <https://www.stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Lone-Worker-Guidance-approved-240513.pdf>

Conflict of interest - <https://www.stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Conflict-of-Interest-Policy-approved-240513.pdf>

Please feel free to check them out on line.

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# My first St. George's bike ride

I woke up nice and early in the morning so that I would have lots of time to play before the bike ride. I thought that was sensible because I'd then be stuck in a seat all morning, but Mummy and Daddy didn't seem quite as pleased.

We cycled to church and met four other people, and then we went for a really long bike ride. I recognised the bit near Jesmond Dene, but then I didn't know where we were - I think they said we were in North Tyneside. We saw someone on a bike who had been on the ferry. It was only my second time on Mummy's bike, but I really like it because I get a good view. I saw lots of dogs, trees, some boats, and a noisy fire engine. My favourite bit was going over the speed bumps, and it was fun waving at Granny Ali. I didn't like it when we stopped, but one man had to answer his phone, and then it got really sunny so we had to take our coats off.

When the grown-ups got tired, we went to a coffee shop. The man that looks like Father Christmas had a chocolate brownie - Mummy wouldn't let me have one, but she did buy me a sandwich so I wouldn't get hungry on the way back. I was very tired when I got home and had a nice long sleep. I hope I'm allowed to go on the next bike ride!

**W.E.**



## May Caption Competition: Answer 2

'If only I had passed Captain Swinburne's exam, I could have been using his new grass cutter'

**Richard Pickersgill**



# The St George's Cycle Club

Date: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June at 9.30

Meet: Outside the Church Hall

Where Are We Going: It's a Secret!

Who's Going With Us:

Anyone with a bike that has brakes that work

How Far Are We Going: Depends Who Turns Up

*No Main Roads Envisaged...*



## Security of our Site

At the recent Parish Meeting (28<sup>th</sup> April 2024), I highlighted onsite security concerns, which I had mentioned in my report:

"Security on the site has presented some issues recently: items of petty theft from the church during November 2023, and attempted theft from a contractor's van, parked outside the hall, which was only prevented by the sharp eye of a passing member of the public. The Community Police have raised with us the possibility that we should consider having CCTV in place, for example, outside the hall main entrance. This might be regarded as an intrusion on privacy and therefore should be a matter of debate for the whole congregation."

Placement of CCTV outside the main entrances to the church, hall and vicarage is under consideration, and I invite opinions on this issue, in the pages of the Lance or by direct feedback to the wardens.

Further, a small number of email scams, purporting to be from members of the clergy team, have also occurred during the past few months. Please be vigilant and check that all emails from St George's are genuine.

**Enid Pearson**

# QT: A brave new news enterprise for the North East



You may have noticed that The

Journal and the Chronicle are a lot thinner these days. There seem to be far fewer journalists employed on the newspapers and their coverage of various aspects of North East life has shrunk and often disappeared. Where are the local court reports? Where is the calling out of council members? Where are the arts reports, reviews, interviews and recommendations? The whole world of newspaper journalism has shrunk and with it our own window into the complicated world around us. The advertising revenue, its lifeblood, has drained away to the internet too, sealing many a newspaper's fate.

Many people now get their news from FACEBOOK or other social media sites. Unlike in newspapers, their news is free at the point of use but in exchange, the user gives up their anonymity and is tracked and sold on to advertisers etc. The news is often gleaned from bona fide news sites or can be the work of 'hostile agents ', but who would know? It is rarely signed or attributed.

It has been said that the lack of local news and the scrutiny that comes with journalistic interrogation has led to the rise of fake news, and to a break down in a sense of local community. The exercise of power by judges, local government, the police and other services goes on with fewer checks. We are all the poorer for this development.

Step forward The QT, a weekly on-line 'newspaper' for the North East financed by subscription, which means no pop-up adverts or content published purely to generate 'clicks'. It is published to your inbox every Thursday at noon.

Edited by Brian Aitken, a former editor of The Journal, and staffed by a small core team of experienced journalists, it also has a network of freelance contributors and experts based around the region.

QT's sections include News, Business and Civilised Society, and its Culture section, including news, interviews and reviews, is led by the team that run Cultured North

East, the digital arts magazine. Our own David Whetstone, with another journalist, leads this section.

This newcomer to the North East news and features landscape needs subscribers to survive. You can find its website at [theqt.online](https://theqt.online/).

<https://theqt.online/>



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## Faith and Politics: how different faiths vote

A study in 2019, asking voters about their faith and also their voting patterns, found the following:

**The Lib Dems:** The Lib Dems are most popular among Buddhists [15%] and Baptists [12%] but least popular among Muslims [4%], Pentecostals [5%] and Jews [6%].

**Conservatives:** Conservatives are most popular among Jews [44%] and Anglicans [40%] but least popular among Muslims [6%] and Buddhists [14%].

**Labour:** Labour is most popular among Muslims [53%] and Pentecostals [34%] but least popular among Jews [14%] and the United Reform Church [15%].

This matters. Recently, the Lib Dem candidate in Sutton and Cheam, David Campa-nale, was de-selected allegedly because of his Christian faith. Kate Forbes, a member of the Scottish Parliament and a contender to lead the SNP, was sidelined by her party partly because of her Christian faith and views, and is now Deputy First Minister to a new leader. With a new election upon us, on July 4<sup>th</sup> 2024, the religion of a voter will be one of the determining factors in the outcome.

# Carly's Christening

Slightly belatedly and with apologies, the Lance reports on a very happy Christening at St George's.

Carly Doreen Martin born 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023 was christened in April. Her parents, Rosalind and Frank, and grandparents, the Fields, were present.



Carly was named for Caroline [her pet name] and with Doreen, Frank's grandmother, who had passed away recently, was remembered.

Carly's christening cakes were a work of art!



# The King Visits

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May, the King of rock 'n' roll visited St George's for one night only.



Elvis Presley! (also known as Gary Jay.) About 100 gave up there Friday night to listen to: Love Me Tender, Blue Suede Shoes, Jailhouse Rock, Viva Las Vegas and many more songs. Some familiar, others very little known. In fact, Elvis/Gary, decided to do something unfamiliar in his set and gave us lots of encores! Elvis did not just sing the songs however, he put on an entire show, with an amazing light display, dancing and Elvis-







chat. He got victims (sorry volunteers!) up to sing, to dance and even to play an air guitar and by the end of the night we were all shaking his hand and swaying!

If we want the swaying to be repeated, we just need Drew to play 'Shine Jesus Shine'! A wonderful assortment of cakes was offered along with the usual St George's copious amounts of wine! Over £500 was raised for the Community Hub.



Thank you to everybody who came, who helped in any way shape or form, and for those who weren't there, you missed a great treat. Elvis has now left the building!

**Donald Gaze**

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## May Parish Walk

The walk was originally scheduled for 4 May but because that conflicted with the Spring Fair and Jesmond Festival, it was put back a week. Unlucky for the fete but otherwise for the walkers, because the weather was poor the earlier week but warm and sunny for the latter.

The walk was in Low Burnhall Wood on the edge of Durham. It was a shorter walk than normal at only 2.8 miles, perhaps a



distance that some thought it not worth putting their boots on for as there were only 10 of us, not counting the lady 3<sup>rd</sup> from the left. But those who passed were very wrong. Biggest is not always best.

The walk starts with a decline to the bank of the Wear. The wood was lovely with leaves still just opening on many trees, the hawthorn blossom abundant, birds singing and a good selection of wild flowers including stitchwort and acres of wild garlic. Coffee was half way round at The Honest Lawyer Hotel.

**Geoff W**

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## **FRIDAY CAFÉ.**

**IN THE WINSKELL ROOM  
EACH FRIDAY FROM 10-  
12NOON.**

**FRIDAY SINGING STARTS  
AT 11:00**

**WELCOME TO EVERYONE.**

**IF YOU ARE LOOKING  
FOR SOMEWHERE TO EN-  
JOY TEA/COFFEE/  
CAKE/BISCUITS IN THE  
COMPANY OF OTHERS  
AND IN A WELCOMING  
ENVIRONMENT, WHY NOT  
MAKE FRIDAY CAFÉ  
WHAT YOU DO?**

**Articles etc. for The  
Lance to be received  
no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of  
each month**

**Send to:**

**[mmvane31@gmail.com](mailto:mmvane31@gmail.com)**

**Thank you, Margaret.**

# St George's Regular Weekly Events - Come and Join Us

## Mondays

**Little Saints**, 2.00-4.00pm in the church hall, every week except bank holidays. For babies/toddlers and their parents/carers; there is no charge and all are welcome.

**Beavers** (6-8 years), 6.00-7.00pm in the church hall. If you would like to volunteer to help lead Beavers, please get in touch via the Parish Office.

**Scouts** (10-14 years), 7.15-8.45pm in the church hall (except for the third Monday of the month).

## Tuesdays

**Drop in – Fourat Duggan**, 10.00am-12.00pm: Fourat will be at church on Tuesday and Friday mornings to see anyone who needs assistance/support whilst resident at the New Northumbria Hotel. St George's will offer support, as far as is possible, to Fourat with her efforts to help those in life-changing times whilst at the hotel in Jesmond. Mobile: 07587608897.

**Tuesday Group**, 9.30am-12.00pm: Meets each week for gardening, maintenance and general DIY to the buildings and grounds. New volunteers always welcome. Coffee break at 10.30am!

**Newcastle Concert Band**, 7.30-9.30pm: Please see their [Facebook page](#) for more information.

## Wednesdays

**Prayers for Sick** and other concerns. Wednesdays, 10am, at the home of Mike Oswald. Please contact the parish office if you'd like to join.

**Physio Support Group**, 2.30-4.00pm: This began as a group for older people who may have been isolated during the pandemic. Followed by a cup of tea or coffee!

**Cubs** (8-10 years), 5.30-6.45pm in the church hall.

**Tai Chi**, 7.15-8.45pm: click [here](#) for more details.

## Thursdays

**Little Kickers**, 9.30-11am: children's football, in the church hall. Please see [their website](#) for more information and to sign up.

**Junior Choir Practice**, 4.30-5.15pm in church.

**Choir Practice**, 7.00-8.15pm in church.

## Fridays

**Drop in – Fourat Duggan**, 10.00am-12.00pm. Details as for Tuesdays.

**Friday Café**, 10.00am-12.00pm: tea, coffee, and a selection of delicious cakes in the Church Hall. Visitors living with dementia are especially welcome.

**Sing & Socialise**, 11.00am-12.00pm: meets in the Church Hall in the Middleton Room. All welcome – no skill required! Again, those living with dementia are especially welcome.

**Bellringing practice**, 7.30-9.00pm in the tower.

## Saturdays

**Rugby Minis**, tag rugby sessions for ages 18m-5 years. 9.00am-11.20am (exact time of session depends on age group). More info on their website [here](#).

## Regular Monthly Events

**Virtual Parish Coffee**, online every first Wednesday of the month at 10.00am. Contact the Parish Office for details on how to join.

*For further details on any of these events, please contact the Parish Office on weekdays, 9.45am-12.45pm. 0191 281 1659 or [office@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](mailto:office@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk).*



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ST GEORGE'S JESMOND  
Saturday Sessions

AMY LEACH  
ALASDAIR PAUL

Traditional Folk Duo

20.00  
SATURDAY  
8 JUNE

ADMISSION £8  
ON THE DOOR AND FROM EVENTBRITE



# Lunchtime Recitals

As you read this, the lunchtime recitals will be well underway. Each concert starts at 13.00, runs for 45 minutes and admission is free. This year, in addition to several organ recitals, Drew will be joined by singers and instrumentalists from across the region in music as varied as Bach, Handel, Amy Beach and Jazz! All proceeds go towards the Organ Restoration Project and the list of performers can be seen below.

Drew started the series with some stunning organ showpieces, including the Bach Toccata and Fugue in D minor, finishing with Widor's Toccata. The following week a wonderful recital was given by two second year students from Newcastle University,

James Hall, organist and Alexandra Lee, soprano. Theirs was a programme of early music including works by Scarlatti, Frescobaldi, Purcell, Campion and Dowland. Each song that they performed represented different aspects of love: unrequited love, lost love, love of nature etc.

Look out for Rachel Miller, who was a dental student and member of the choir several years ago; she will be playing viola with Ben Newton, pianist, on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

Do come along and support these concerts, in aid of the Organ Restoration Project.

**HC**



**Alexandra Lee and James Hall**

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# Church of England Calendar June 2024

1	Justin, Martyr at Rome, c.165
3	<i>The Martyrs of Uganda, 1885-7 and 1977</i>
4	<i>Petroc, Abbot of Padstow, 6th century</i>
5	Boniface (Wynfrith) of Crediton, Bishop, Apostle of Germany, Martyr, 754
6	<i>Ini Kopuria, Founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood, 1945</i>
8	Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Nonjuror, Hymn Writer, 1711
9	Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597 <i>Ephrem of Syria, Deacon, Hymn Writer, Teacher of the Faith, 373</i>
11	<b>Barnabas the Apostle</b>
14	<i>Richard Baxter, Puritan Divine, 1691</i>
15	<i>Evelyn Underhill, Spiritual Writer, 1941</i>
16	Richard, Bishop of Chichester, 1253 <i>Joseph Butler, Bishop of Durham, Philosopher, 1752</i>
17	<i>Samuel and Henrietta Barnett, Social Reformers, 1913 and 1936</i>
18	<i>Bernard Mizeki, Apostle of the MaShona, Martyr, 1896</i>
19	<i>Sundar Singh of India, Sadhu (holy man), Evangelist, Teacher of the Faith, 1929</i>
22	Alban, first Martyr of Britain, c.250
23	Etheldreda, Abbess of Ely, c.678
25	<b>The Birth of John the Baptist</b>
27	<i>Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria, Teacher of the Faith, 444</i>
28	Irenæus, Bishop of Lyons, Teacher of the Faith, c.200
29	<b>Peter and Paul, Apostles</b>

## Understanding the Calendar:

'Principal Feasts' and other 'Principal Holy Days' are printed in **red bold** type.

'Festivals' are printed in **red** typeface; other Sundays & 'Lesser Festivals' in ordinary black. 'Commemorations' are printed in *italics*.

# **The Diocese of Newcastle upon Tyne**

## **Parish of St George, Jesmond**

**We are a Church of England (Anglican) church in the Diocese of Newcastle with an inclusive, catholic tradition of Christian worship. We welcome all in Christ's name.**

### **Vicar**

Interregnum

### **Reader and Anna Chaplain**

Mrs Joan Grenfell

[grenfelljoan@yahoo.com](mailto:grenfelljoan@yahoo.com)

### **Reader & Air Cadet Chaplain**

Dr Malcolm Toft

[depchap.dnl@rafac.mod.gov.uk](mailto:depchap.dnl@rafac.mod.gov.uk)

### **Churchwardens**

Enid Pearson 285 0958

[enid@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](mailto:enid@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)

Janet Wilson 07766 297359

[janet@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](mailto:janet@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)

### **Parish Safeguarding Officer**

Dr Sue Vernon 281 3861 / 07411099690

[suejvernon@icloud.com](mailto:suejvernon@icloud.com)

### **Director of Music**

Drew Cantrill-Fenwick

[music@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](mailto:music@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)

### **Bell Tower Captain**

Geoff White 285 1405

[bells@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](mailto:bells@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)

### **Publicity**

Margaret Vane and Hazel Jones-Lee

[publicity@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](mailto:publicity@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)

### **Community Hub**

[communityhub@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](mailto:communityhub@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)

### **Parish Secretary**

Jonathan Richards 281 1659

[office@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](mailto:office@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)

## **PASTORAL CARE**

Any pastoral concerns or commendations should be made to Joan Grenfell or a member of the clergy.

## ENQUIRIES CONCERNING BAPTISMS MARRIAGES FUNERALS

Initial enquiries should be directed to the Parish Office, which is open Monday to Friday, 9.45 am to 12.45 pm.

address: St George's Close, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE2 2TF

tel: 0191 281 1659

email: [office@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](mailto:office@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)

## FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

**Website:** [www.stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](http://www.stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)

**Facebook:** St-Georges-Church-Jesmond

**Twitter:** @stgeorgejesmond

## Livestreaming of services

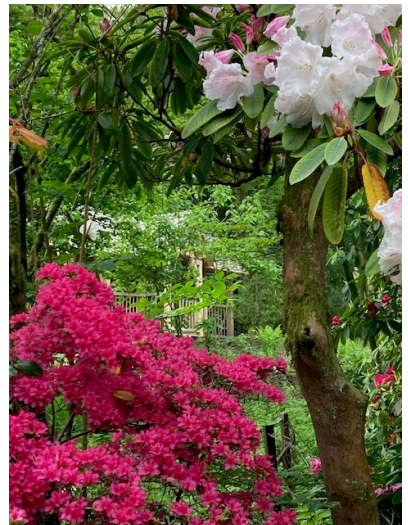
Please note that we livestream the 9.30 communion service. You can watch the service [here](#) while it is being broadcast live. If you'd like to watch the recording after the service has finished, please go to our [YouTube channel](#) (it may take a couple of hours after the stream has finished for the video to appear).

<https://stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk/sunday-worship/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCuPrChpepxs6Jo-PfLvwJw/featured>

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## Cumbria in the Spring



# Welcome to St. George's Church Jesmond

We are a Church of England (Anglican) church, part of Jesmond life since 1888, with a congregation from the locality, the city and the region. We aim to be friendly, diverse and to welcome all in Christ's name. Our worship is inclusive and in the catholic tradition, with high quality music. If you are new to this area, or would like to find out more, please get in touch. [www.stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](http://www.stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)

**Facebook:** St-Georges-Church-Jesmond

**Twitter:** @stgeorgejesmond **email:** [office@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk](mailto:office@stgeorgesjesmond.org.uk)

## SUNDAY SERVICES

08.00 Holy Communion

09.30 PARISH COMMUNION with  
Sunday School / Smarties (age 4-16)  
Children's corner available in church

11.30 Holy Communion (1st Sunday of month)

18.00 Taize (2nd Sunday of month)

18.00 Choral Evensong (3rd Sunday)

## WEEKDAY SERVICES

08.45 Daily: Morning Prayer

09.30 Thursday: Holy Communion  
Saints' Days as announced

**Livestreaming of services.** You can watch the 09:30 service live [here](#), or later on our [YouTube channel](#)

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**Articles for publication to:**  
[mmvane31@gmail.com](mailto:mmvane31@gmail.com)  
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