

The Ecclesiastical Parish of Great Ayton with Easby

Guisborough Road, Great Ayton, Middlesbrough TS9 6AA

Charity No. 1131499

www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk



Annual Report 2012



**Diocese of
YORK**



**THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**

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PCC as at February 2012

Ex Officio: Clergy - Revd Paul Peverell, Revd Geoff Jaques & Revd Jon Dean: Readers - Margaret Lewis & Peter Titchmarsh: Churchwardens (& Deanery Synod) - Rosemary Wheway & Eric Boyce.

Deanery Synod Reps: Ken Taylor, Nick Land, Robin Harmar,

PCC Members: Ken Bellamy, Julie Bourke, Jean Cumbor, Julie Leng, Alison Lambert, Mike Foden, Martin Simmons, Gordon Wood, Craig Cartwright, David Land & Enid Sedgwick.



A Word from the Vicar

This year will be remembered for many years to come, for not only did we celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen, we also welcomed the world to our Country with the most enjoyable Olympic and Paralympic games ever staged. But what happened here?

Baptisms were up to 31 (27), weddings up to 8 (6) with 16 bookings taken for weddings at Christ Church this next year. We had our first and very successful wedding fayre. Our grateful thanks to Whinstone View wedding venue for kindly promoting our Churches to couples and welcoming me at wedding fayres. Funerals down from 53 to 38, so we are getting more healthy!

Easter Day attendance rose to 279 (262), whilst Christmas Eve/Day attendance dropped to 508 (585), but considering the day before we had a packed Church for the Christmas Carol Service, this is not surprising. Average Sunday attendances have risen slightly to 136 (130), mainly due to Come & Praise, Alternatives and Parade Services.

In May we tried Praise and Party on a Sunday afternoon to include housebound folk, and it was a great success. June saw the Church packed for the Jubilee Service, having also welcomed the schools in for their celebrations. In July we had our Olympic Special on Low Green. October saw us giving £10 notes away to pass on a blessing. This initiative gained National attention in press and TV and the ripples of good deeds are still travelling! The Christmas Season was very successful with Love in a Box, Christingle and numerous carol services.

In between all of these big things, there have been many smaller things going on and numerous people working faithfully for the benefit of our Church. May I pay especial tribute to our Churchwardens, Eric and Rosemary, who are never afraid to roll up their sleeves and work. Eric is stepping down in 2013 and leaves a hard act to follow. Thanks too, to Ken our Treasurer and Julie our PCC Secretary for all they do, and to the Parish Staff of Geoff, Jon, Margaret and Peter, whose assistance both within and without the Parish is so much appreciated.

To all mentioned in this report, THANK YOU. Please show your support by coming to the Annual Church Meeting on **Wednesday 20th March in the Parochial Hall at 7.30pm.**

Paul Peverell, Vicar

The Vicarage, Low Green, Great Ayton, Middlesbrough, TS9 6NN

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The Parish of Great Ayton with Easby

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Wednesday 21st March 2012

Present (36)

Reverend Paul Peverell (Vicar/Chairman) Mike Acornley, Ken Bellamy, Julie Bourke, Eric Boyce, Mary Boyce, Paul Bradley, Elaine Brown, Craig Cartwright, Victoria Gawthorpe, Robin Harmar, David Henley, Gwen Henley, Margaret Herriman, Maureen Hudson, Angela Jaques, Geoff Jaques, Lesley Kerr, Alison Lambert, Caroline Legg, Margaret Lewis, Betty Manton, Jean Mitchell, Nicky Pepper, Rob Pepper, Audrey Prunty, Peter Prunty, Malcolm Race, David Rowland, Enid Sidgewick, Martin Simmons, Ken Taylor, Rosemary Wheway, Ann Whittaker, Dorothy Wood, Gordon Wood

Apologies (16) were received from: Alison Collins, Audrey Collins, Jean Crombie, Jo Dean, Jon Dean, Helen Dickinson, John Dickinson, Ron Mitchell, Andrew Prunty, Chris Thompson, Peter Titchmarsh, Pauline Titchmarsh, Lynda Walker, Jonathan Winterschladen, Vivienne Winterschladen, Zuilmah Winterschladen,

Meeting of Parishioners

The Vicar welcomed everyone to the meeting. Music was played and prayers were said.

Election of Churchwardens

- Rosemary Wheway had been proposed by Ken Bellamy and seconded by Ken Taylor.
- Eric Boyce had been proposed by Ken Bellamy and seconded by Ken Taylor.
- There were no further nominations and they were duly re-elected as Churchwardens for the coming year.
- The Vicar emphasized how Rosemary and Eric have been absolutely fantastic in all they have done in past year and he is delighted that they have once again been nominated and seconded as Churchwardens.
- A very big thank you was said for all they do.



Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Those present, who are on electoral roll, were invited to stay for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Apologies for Absence

- A list of the names of people giving apologies was read out.

Minutes of Meeting held 23rd March 2011

- The minutes of last year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting had been circulated with the Annual Report.
- The minutes were proposed by Robin Harmar and seconded by Ken Taylor – all agreed.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

- There were no matters arising.

Electoral Roll Report

- Alison Lambert advised that The Electoral Roll at the Annual Parochial Meeting in 2011 stood at 329.
- She reported that, following the revision of the roll for 2012, which closed on 5th March, the number appearing on the Roll is now 334, a net increase of 5 for the year.
- This net increase is due to 12 new applications being accepted and 7 names being removed from the list.
- There are still a significant number of church members who are not on the Roll.
- Applications for enrolment can be accepted after the conclusion of the Annual Meeting and throughout the year not just at the Annual Revision.
- The Vicar thanked Alison for her report.



Presentation of the Annual Report for 2011

- The Annual Report for 2011 has been published and distributed in several formats, including on website and in paper copy.
- Formal adoption of the report was proposed by Ken Bellamy and seconded by Martin Simmons and agreed by all present.

Financial Report & Presentation of the Audited Accounts for year ending 31st December 2011

- Ken Taylor presented the audited accounts for the year ending 31st December 2011 – full details of the income and expenditure can be found in the Annual Report.
 - Highlights of the financial year are that planned giving, donations and legacies have significantly increased during the year.
 - With regards to expenditure the full Parish Share has been paid.
 - The HODA fund has been closed altogether and the funds that remained in this account have been distributed between Bwindi Community Hospital, Uganda and the False Bay project, South African.
 - The balance at the year end is £43,746. It was agreed that this figure is high and there are plans for expenditure in the coming year.

 - Details of the Budget for 2012 were expanded upon and plans to spend on repairing the wall over the memorial chapel were advised.
 - Taking projected income and expenditure into consideration the summary for 2012 shows a surplus of £4,000. Suggestions were invited for spending this surplus as it is not the church's intention to run with a surplus. The PCC has suggested paying an additional amount into the Parish Share as this year our requested amount has fallen. Malcolm Race suggested waiting to see if the £4,000 surplus materialised before making plans to spend it – Ken agreed and proposed to wait until the later part of the year before making any further commitments.
 - The finances were proposed by Eric Boyce, seconded by Gordon Wood and all were in favour.

 - With regards to targets on the third Mission Action Plan – it is hoped to raise at least £10,000 to go to charitable causes this year with a recommendation to target children's charities
 - There is a target to increase the current 208 people who are part of the planned giving scheme by 10 new members.

 - Ken expressed his sincere thanks to Helen Dickinson, Sheila Levett, Jean Goat, Mike Foden and Robin Harmar who all help him to manage the church's money. He also expressed his appreciation to those who do the service count.
- § The Vicar thanked Ken Taylor for all his work on the accounts and expressed his admiration for the way that he kept up to date with technology.

The Vicar's Comments

- The Vicar spoke about the activities that had been held during the last year – it had once again been a year full of activity and he demonstrated this with photographs and spoke of the growth of the church.
- The Vicar has actively promoted weddings in church through his attendance at Wedding Fairs and this has resulted in an increase in planned weddings.
- Throughout this year it has been a pleasure to enable people from all over the world to share specific services, eg confirmation and funerals – by the use of modern technology, including Skype.
- The Archbishop of York, John Sentamu had presided over our Confirmation Service.
- The Vicar also spoke of the number of longstanding congregation members who we died last year and how they were very much missed.
- The Vicar expressed **A VERY BIG THANK YOU** to all those who work so hard within the church community – not just the people of who were part of the PCC but all the people who work on a voluntary basis to run organisations and contribute so VERY much to the life of our church. The Annual Report gives an indication to the different clubs and organisations within our community and it is fantastic to consider the number of people who work so willingly to provide these services.



Election of members to the Church Council – 5 vacancies

- Gordon Wood is retiring from the PCC this year after making a significant contribution to the life of the church and having carried out a number of offices, including Churchwarden. The Vicar expressed everyone's thanks and appreciation.
- There are five vacancies, including four members whose term ended in 2012 and one vacancy following John Huddlestone's retirement last year
- Have received five nominations – Ken Bellamy, Michael Foden, Victoria Gawthorpe, Caroline Legg, Robert Pepper
- There were no further nominations and the aforementioned were duly elected to the Church Council.

Appointment of Sidesmen/Sideswomen

- The list of Sidesmen and Sideswomen remain the same as last year with the following amendments:
- Gladys and John Brown have stepped down

- Jean Brown and Jetta Batey have joined the team
- Need to have further support to act as a Sidesperson at baptisms and a request was made that anyone wishing to become a sides person to contact Rosemary Wheway
- Vicky and Mark Gawthorpe have volunteered to be sidespeople at the Come and Praise service.

Appointment of Independent Examiners

- Ken Taylor proposed Stanley Bye be appointed as our Independent Examiners.
- This was seconded by Gordon Wood and all agreed.

Any questions about Church Matters

Recommendations or resolutions for consideration by the PCC.

- As previously mentioned, the HODA link has now been severed and the account has been closed.
- The Diocese is linked with Dioceses in South Africa. Our Christmas Appeal made a significant contribution to Bishop Martin's appeal for False Bay.
- An Archdeacon is coming over from South Africa to be a visiting preacher at Pentecost and will visit our church.
- It is proposed to establish a link with South Africa.

Ken Bellamy thanked Paul, on behalf of us all, for all his energy and enthusiasm and for all that he does to lead our church so successfully. He wished him to know that he is very much appreciated by all his congregation.

The meeting continued with information about the York Diocesan Companion Link with Dioceses in South Africa. We are joined with False Bay in the South of South Africa and our church has asked for a specific link to be established.

Churchwardens' Report 2012

The church silver and other items of value continue to be safe and records continue to be updated and safe; photographic evidence has also been updated.

During 2012 we have planned a number of projects for both the church and church hall. These will be completed during the present year and include work to the organ to replace the existing blower and box. The work planned for the hall includes the installation of a new boiler and improvements to the hot water and heating system in the coffee lounge. In All Saints Church we are improving the vestry area for the guides and replacing the soft furnishings ready for the new visitor season.



We would like to thank the many people involved in keeping the church looking so beautiful during the year. We appreciate the work of the volunteers who help us to keep the outside areas tidy throughout the year and we would like to thank everyone for their support in raising the funds to allow these projects to be realised.

The quinquennial inspection was carried out at All Saints Church with no urgent repairs identified. However, some work on the surrounding trees will be done by Hambleton Council.

In May we initiated a new venture and held an afternoon service “Praise and Party” in place of the 9.15 service. It was very well attended and transport was provided for those who find it difficult to get to church. We hope this will become an annual event.

2012 was a year of celebration with the success of the Queen’s Jubilee and the Olympic Games. We also held our own Jubilee Service and many organisations in the village had their own day of celebration. At Pentecost many of our congregation attended Archbishop Sentamu’s service held at Whitby Abbey which was a wonderful day of celebration.



Mission continues to be a very important area for the PCC with charity donations made locally, nationally and internationally. Our Christmas collections were raised for “Embrace the Middle East”. We also continue to support our young people who leave for further education by sending boxes of cakes, coffee etc to their various universities.

The coming months will see many more challenges for our PCC to manage. There was a welcome addition of some younger members to our Church Council during 2012. They will be an important asset to attaining these goals.

We would like to thank you for your support during the last year and encourage you to become involved in the new ventures being planned.

Eric Boyce and Rosemary Wheway Churchwardens

PCC Secretary's Report 2012

Since the last Annual Church Meeting in March, the PCC and Standing Committee (pictured - minus Ken Bellamy & Paul, who was taking the picture) have each met on 5 occasions. These meetings were well attended and the effective running of our church has been discussed.



Meetings of the All Saints Committee, Ayton Churches Together Committee, Hall Committee, Projects and Fabric Committee and Parish Life and Young People Committee have been held throughout the year to discuss projects relating to both churches and buildings. Reports following these meetings have been given at PCC meetings.

We welcomed three new members to the PCC – Mrs Vicky Gawthorpe, Mrs Caroline Legg and Mr Rob Pepper.

Thanks must be given to **all** members of the PCC who work so hard to ensure that events are planned within the church, run smoothly and enjoyed by all. They attend to the finite details which contribute significantly to the success of our church.

Both of our Churchwardens, Rosemary Whewey and Eric Boyce, are fountains of knowledge and much appreciated for their willingness to carry out a variety of tasks as well as their Churchwarden duties. In minutes of meetings it is more often than not Eric's name that is written in red with an action point and for this we must thank him – even more so this year as he is stepping down from his role as Churchwarden after six years. I hope Eric realises how grateful we are for his contributions to the life and smooth running of our church – he's a tough act to follow!



I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to our 'boss' and chief motivator, Paul, who continues to think of innovative ways to involve everyone in church life and to encourage them to reach out to others in our village and beyond – with a little bit of positive publicity in the national press on the way !!

Julie Bourke - Secretary

Deanery Synod Report

In 2012 there were only three meetings of Synod, as the May meeting was cancelled as there was no urgent business to attend to.

The item that caused most stir was the aftermath of the vote from General Synod not to put through the Ordination of Women to the Episcopate Measure, which had been voted down in the House of Laity, although was passed in the Houses of Bishops and Clergy. The reason given being not sufficient safeguards for those who disagreed. Deanery Synod overwhelmingly regretted the decision of General Synod and wrote to express their frustration and the hurt felt by female priests and their supporters. The prospective Bishop of Whitby was also a casualty of this debate, for after speaking against the Proposal, he stirred lay people up in the Arcdeaconry to voice their frustration to the Archbishop on having yet another Bishop who doesn't recognise women's priesthood and subsequently withdrew.

Funding the Mission - or how to get a quart out of a pint hat - once again occupied a lot of time. Some Parishes are undoubtedly finding it hard, and others appear to be sitting on large balances ready for the rainy day. Well, its raining folks! Hopefully this item will be addresses with the Archbishop's new initiative this year of Generous Churches making a Freewill offering.

We had talks about SSM Ministry, news of the Youth Committee and the new Communications Committee seeking to keep us informed. We shall miss Nick Green's input as he leaves to become Rector of Dunblane.

The Deanery Day in July with Churches all open was a mixed success, but the Lent Course at Stokesley went very well with another planned for this year.

Spire

Spire, the Church Magazine, goes from strength to strength with an email distribution well over 400 that grows by the month. Several parishioners living or working overseas have said how much they appreciate this voice from home. The coloured paper edition is now starting its third year in March 2013, and it goes into all the local cafes, Discovery Centre and Health Centre.

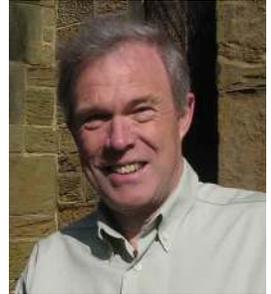


My thanks to the regular contributors of interesting articles and to Jean Goat and her team of deliverers. Especial thanks to Quion Publishing who turn it around so quickly each month and are so reliable. If they hadn't approached me and asked to quote, we may never have had the pleasure of the coloured paper edition. Well done Michelle, Angela and Bob.

Paul - Editor

Financial Report 2012

Despite the continuing financial crisis in the country, it is pleasing to report that the generosity and financial support from the people of Christ Church continues apparently unabated! Overall, we showed a surplus of £3,417 on our unrestricted funds for the year.



Unrestricted income fell slightly over the previous year to £108,072. A reduction in fee income (from a reduced number of weddings and funerals) and in the general level of donations was compensated by a slight rise in planned giving.

Unrestricted expenditure was on budget and similar to last year at £104,655. Although our allocated Parish Share was down on last year, the PCC decided to offer an additional £1,000 to help the mission of the Diocese. It was also decided to increase our mission giving from general funds from £4,747 last year to £7,375. This was made possible by a reduction in many of our operating costs particularly administration and church maintenance. The Tees Valley Youth for Christ project at Stokesley School was again a major recipient of our mission giving.

The Church Hall had a good year with the year-end balances up by over £2,500 while All Saints reserves remain at a healthy level of £8,247.

During the year we ran two major appeals. At Harvest, Paul organised a highly successful “Sharing our Blessings” campaign which not only benefited local residents but received significant regional and national media coverage. In addition we were able to raise over £1,000 for the Barnabas Fund. The Christmas appeal this year focussed on “Embrace the Middle East”, a charity which supports housing projects for those suffering in the war-torn areas of Israel, Palestine, Lebanon and Egypt - over £2,260 was raised and we received a moving letter of thanks from the chief executive of the charity.

Despite the number of weddings and funerals being lower than in previous years, we still managed to raise nearly £7,000 from the collections for a variety of regional and national charities- Yorkshire Air Ambulance was the main beneficiary this year. Children in Distress benefited by £2,171 from donations at baptisms and other fundraising events. Over the year, a total of £23,093 was distributed to 41 charities or other good causes.

As noted earlier, we achieved a surplus of income over expenditure for the year £3,417 which took our unrestricted reserves to £47,163 equivalent to around 5 months of unrestricted expenditure.

As most of you will know, the Archbishop has launched the “Generous Churches Making & Nurturing Disciples” campaign which will radically alter the way the mission of the Church is funded from 2014 onwards. The main change is that instead of being allocated a “Parish Share” we will be asked to make a “Freewill Offering” each year into the Common Fund. So the decision on what the Parish gives will be OURS and this will be a decision which affects every member of our Church!!

Finally, I would like to thank the other members of the finance team- Helen Dickinson, Jean Goat and Sheila Levitt (and all the sidespersons) – who have all helped to ensure that your Church finances are kept in good order.

Ken Taylor
Hon Treasurer

Church Website



Since moving the hosting of our church website to *Church Edit* in November 2010 its content and information continues to grow and is visited by a growing number of people *throughout the world!*

There are regular updates each week to several of the pages when we try to keep up-to-date with news of past and forthcoming events affecting our congregation. Regular features such as the *Spire* and *Annual Report* in PDF form are popular with visitors to the website as are current news items and the weekly Bible Readings which are used each Sunday. Other features to the site such as calendars, audio and now video files, etc. are also shown. If you haven't had chance to have a browse yet then go to www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk.

Details of information and news of activities of our different organisations can be featured on individual pages on the website if secretaries or those responsible send details, preferably by email, to either myself or the Vicar.

Peter Titchmarsh
Webmaster

Christ Church Charitable Giving 2012

| Charity | Tax refund | Donations | Spec Serv | Fundraising | Baptisms | Weddings | Funerals | Gen Funds | Total |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Christian Aid | 316.47 | | 316.47 | | | | | | 316.47 |
| Friends of Bural Community Hospital | 247.89 | | 247.89 | | | | | | 247.89 |
| The Gileons International | | | | | | | | 500 | 500 |
| Church Pastoral Aid Society | 0 | | 0 | 86.73 | | | | 500 | 500 |
| USPG | | | | | | | | 500 | 500 |
| Church Mission Society | 69.2 | | | | | | | 500 | 569.2 |
| Church Army | | | | | | | | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Childrens Society | 410.76 | | | | 1617.23 | | 0 | 500.00 | 910.76 |
| Children in Distress | 533.73 | | | | | | | 2000.00 | 2170.96 |
| Tees Valley Youth for Christ | | | | | | | | | 2000 |
| British Heart Foundation | | | | | | | 492.31 | | 492.31 |
| Barnabas Fund | 61.75 | | | 801.33 | | | | 170 | 1033.08 |
| Embrace the Middle East | 69.42 | 30 | 2161.18 | | | | | | 2280.6 |
| Widspower | | | | 236.17 | | | | | 236.17 |
| Yorkshire Cancer Research (YCR) | | | | | | | 311.33 | | 311.33 |
| JCUH (Palliative Care Trust Fund) | | | | | | | 676.06 | | 676.06 |
| Marie Curie Cancer Care | | | | | | | | | 0.00 |
| Great North Air Ambulance | | | | | | | | | 110 |
| Hennet Hospice Homelace | | | | 80.47 | | | | | 80.47 |
| Cleveland Mountain Rescue | | | | | | 181.64 | | | 181.64 |
| Great Ayton Health Centre | | | | | | | 84.99 | | 84.99 |
| Alzhimers Association | | | | | | 221.62 | | | 221.62 |
| Down's Syndrome Association | | | | | | 128.36 | | | 128.36 |
| Endometriosis UK | | | | | | 156.99 | | | 156.99 |
| Zoe's Place | | | | | | 0 | 806.67 | | 806.67 |
| Brian House Childrens Hospice | | | | | | 172.53 | | | 172.53 |
| Chris Staith Fund | | | | | | 172.52 | | | 172.52 |
| Daisy Chain | | | 189.64 | 963 | | | | 500 | 1152.64 |
| Yatton House | | | | | | | 296.6 | | 296.6 |
| Broaderers Housing Association | | | | | | | | 1300 | 1300 |
| "Pass a Blessin" Harvest Appeal | | | | | | | | | 28.5 |
| Middlebrough Food Bank | | | 28.5 | | | | | | 28.5 |
| Student Boxes | | | | | | | | 274.57 | 274.57 |
| St Oswalds Church | | | | | | | 760.93 | | 760.93 |
| QE Diamond Jubilee Trust Fund | 279.63 | | | | | | | | 279.63 |
| Yorkshire Air Ambulance | | | | | | 159.5 | 1020.62 | | 1180.12 |
| Royal British Legion | 540.65 | | | | | 106.17 | 0 | | 646.82 |
| Musicians Benevolent Fund | | | | | | | 490.31 | | 490.31 |
| RSPCA | | | | | | | 49.3 | | 49.3 |
| Woodland Trust | | | | | | | 67.21 | | 67.21 |
| Festiniog Railway Society | | | | | | | 509.45 | | 509.45 |
| Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust | | | | | | | | 100 | 100 |
| | | | (Restricted 15718.66) | | | (Unrestricted 7374.57) | | | |
| Totals | 131.17 | 30 | 5224.29 | 1851.06 | 1617.23 | 1299.33 | 5565.78 | 7374.57 | 23093.43 |

Sunday School Report

Always the highlight of the year, 'The Crib Service'. This year we had 28 children taking part singing some lovely songs and telling the Christmas Story accompanied by



Mrs Vivienne Winterschladen on the piano.

We meet every Sunday during term time school except for the 2nd Sunday of the month when it is Family Service at 11am. We have 38 children on the register with an average attendance of 25. A good number of parents help on the rota and we have had two former members of Sunday school assisting for a term each to complete the volunteering section of their Duke of Edinburgh award.

Activities are available from 9am for early arrivals. We start with a service. The children take turns lighting the altar candles, we change the colour of the cloth as in Church to teach the children about Church colours and seasons. The service continues with our weekly story, prayers, the peace and singing. We finish with a craft activity linked to the story we have told. The children go into Church for the end of the service and show their crafts and tell the congregation what they have learnt.

We have followed the Lectionary with our stories at Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Harvest. We have studied many other Bible stories too. On Good Friday we had 65 children attend the craft workshops. The children produced some lovely crafts and were joined by their families for a short service in Church.

We participated in the special services for Love in a Box and Christingle.

Dave the Time Traveller came for our party in January and everyone had a very enjoyable afternoon.

We would thank the PCC for their continued financial support which allows us to do interesting crafts and run special events for the children.

Karen Peverell Alison Collins

Alternative Worship

We welcomed Jaime Smyth from Tennessee to a full church on Education Sunday as we celebrated 'Learning & Serving'. Jaime led us in song and shared with us how she had answered God's call to come and Serve amongst us as a volunteer Christian Youth Worker. We also featured songs and drama by the pupils of Roseberry and Marwood Schools. Our collection was for Bwindi Community Hospital, an Anglican Hospital under the Diocese of Kinkiizi who see their mission as: 'Serving Jesus Christ through giving holistic health care and life in all its fullness to the staff, patients, clients and visitors in the Hospital and community.'



In July we were once again blessed with a wonderful dry and sunny afternoon for our 'Open Air Olympic Alternative' on Low Green. Music was again led by our own AMMSG and returning brass NSB. Special guests who spoke were



Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson, Gold Medal Paralympian, and Gordon Surtees, Former athletic coach, who both gave talks to inspire pointing out what can be achieved with commitment and dedication. We were delighted to welcome a group of pupils from Roseberry School who sang for us and the Bradley School of Dance & Musical Theatre who performed their Chariots of Fire number to great applause.

Wheelpower was the recipient of our collection.

Other Alternatives included Christian Aid in May and 'The Way of the Lord' in 2 parts in October and November when we featured a tremendous worship song 'These are the Days of Elijah'! Do come and join us in 2013. All are welcome.

Revd Geoff Jaques

Christ Church Choir

2012 has been a very good year for the choir as a whole who continue to work extremely hard. A number of anthems and other musical items have been presented at the 9:15 Sung Eucharist which have been both classical and modern. In addition to the normal pattern of services the choir have taken part in other activities within the parish such as the Harvest Festival at St Oswald's as well as the Carol Services in both St Oswald's and Christ Church. This year we welcomed Lesley Kerr into our ranks as a Soprano, whilst Elsa Taylor joined the choir for the Christmas Carol Services.

The choir continues to represent the parish both at Deanery and local level well. In March the choir sang at Stokesley Parish Church as part of the Deanery Lent course. The choir enjoys a very active connection with the RSCM both locally and on a more national level. The choir as a whole took part in the North of England Festival in May 2012 at Hexham Abbey and in October 2012 at York Minster. Mike Nash and I represent the parish choir with our involvement with RSCM Voices North and will continue to do so in 2013.

In September 2012 Viv Winterschladen successfully gained her RSCM Silver Award with distinction after sitting an exam examined by the RSCM. Viv worked extremely hard on this hard, and her award of distinction is a testament to that work. Viv was presented with her medal at the RSCM NE Yorkshire Festival in York Minster in October 2012.

We had the distinction of hosting Gordon Appleton (RSCM Regional Music Advisor for the North of England) for a workshop for the choir in November 2012. The day event was a great success and enjoyed by both Gordon and the members of the choir.



I would like to thank the choir for the hard work and dedication during this busy year, without whom the choir would not exist, and Chris Thompson, Margaret Heaton, and Viv Winterschladen for deputising on the Organ and at rehearsal for when I have been absent. My thanks also go to John Dickinson who I have been working with on implementing the music side of MAP3.

Craig David Cartwright

Organist and Director of Music

Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF)

Through their various resources BRF aim to help people of all ages – children, adults and families – to explore Christianity and to grow in faith. You can find out about the various aspects of their work at www.brf.org.uk

At Christ Church the group of people using Bible reading notes produced by BRF as an aid to reading the Bible regularly, has grown to 42. **“New Daylight”** which provides four months of daily Bible readings with a brief explanation of the passage and how it can be of use today, continues to be the most popular of the choices and is used by 37 people. There are 25 **“New Daylight”** readers who now meet together occasionally for discussion and prayer. To build up



our fellowship we plan to increase our contact with each other this year by meeting monthly in small groups, to share day-to-day experiences of the relevance of **“New Daylight’s”** bible passages and commentary for our lives.

There are spare copies of **“New Daylight”** and other notes available for you to try. Please ask if you would like one.

Enid Sedgwick

Bible Study Group

Psalm 119 says, “Your word, Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations” and “Your word is a lamp for my feet, and a light on my path”.

God’s timeless word reveals to us his grand design as creator and redeemer. But it is not always easy to understand so we need to study it and help another to apply it to our everyday lives.

Over the last year our study of Paul’s second letter to the Corinthians has reminded us that ‘True Discipleship’ is not always easy but that God is the “God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble...”. More recently Martin Simmons has helped us unpack the evidence for the historical accuracy of Luke’s Gospel as we prepare to study it at the Parish Wydale weekend and over Easter.

We welcome new members, no previous knowledge is required and you are free to just sit and listen. We meet at Post Chaise cottage every other Thursday and each study is followed by coffee and cakes (thank you Audrey!). We will be starting a new set of studies after Easter and we would love you to join us.

Nick Land (778076)

Electronic Communications

Christ Church really does have a world wide reach, and this year we have brought more families together at funeral services, with grandchildren from across the globe reading lessons via Skype, and being heard more clearly than those present!



At the Christmas Carol Service we were also able to connect with the Cardona family in France who were unable to be here for Christmas.

Christmas also saw us discover how to put videos onto our website, starting with the Bethlehemian Rhapsody performed with puppets by our young people. A very moving tribute sung by pupils past and present at Zuilmah Winterschladen’s funeral was also recorded and posted, and has had many views. We are now trying out weekly messages for Lent.

All Saints Church



Continued good team working with the Tourist Information Centre, the Capt. Cook Museum, and the new Discovery Centre, regarding visitors.

The Quinquennial Report was most complimentary, and very encouraging.

The installation, by the Diocese, of the new iron gate to the former drive to the Vicarage, has greatly improved the approach to All Saints.

Within the Churchyard, the foundation of the footpath up to the Church Porch has been stabilised, and 2 tons of selected small gravel, supplied by Hambleton District Council, are to be laid.

Change of use of 19th century Vestry from mainly storage, to provision of facilities for Visitor Guides, is well underway, with introduction of much needed heating.

The recognised Annual Civic Service, in memory of Capt James Cook, was attended by Civic Representatives from as far afield as Whitby to Hartlepool, and was, as ever, very well received



The Church was filled to capacity with a congregation of 158, for the traditional annual “Carols by Candlelight” Service

All in all, a full and successful Year!

Roger Arkell Hon Custodian

Christ Church Visitors

There are now 17 visitors who meet regularly with the clergy and visit 30 elderly or housebound people. We have visited residential



homes and several local hospitals as well as people's homes with visitors regularly going to Stokesley, and Nunthorpe.

We meet with the clergy each month and annually we discuss and revise our own Guidelines. We continue to receive appropriate training sessions at some of these meetings. In addition, we have an identity card to leave on the first visit which can give a contact phone number and has already reassured relatives of vulnerable people.

We deliver a card and speak to next of kin close to the first anniversary of a bereavement and have identified suitable prayers and cards to use during visits.

With the help of the congregation we hope to continue a system of visiting new arrivals to the village and have taken Welcome Packs with a welcome card, letter from Christ Church, Spire, Stream, Newsheet and map. You can help by filling in a card at the back of Church to advise us of any new neighbours you may have.

We support Paul with the monthly service in Hollygarth and also transport some people who would otherwise be unable to go. This is based in Hollygarth but for **anyone** who wants a monthly service on a mid week afternoon – not just residents of Hollygarth.

In 2012 we met with similar groups from all the other churches in the village. We hosted a short service followed by a discussion and sharing of ideas. We hope to meet annually at the different churches.

Last May we were proud to host the first “Praise and Party” whereby the 9.15 service was cancelled and replaced by one in the afternoon followed by afternoon tea. This was superbly supported by everyone and very much appreciated by those who find the morning services too early.

It is a very rewarding task and we would welcome anyone to join us so that we can reach more people.

Rosemary Wheway

Flower Guild Report

During 2012 there were only four weddings for which we were asked to decorate the church. However it looks like we may have our work cut out for this year with a possible 15 weddings! This is many more than in previous years so, happily, Paul's Wedding Fair has proved to be a great success.

Once again we enjoyed the task of transforming the church from unadorned Lent to the glory and joy of Easter. We were very happy to receive

sponsorship for the arrangements and hope they gave pleasure and a measure of comfort to the sponsors.



Harvest Thanksgiving gave us the opportunity to introduce lots of colour into our arrangements. Although we think white and green a very elegant combination for weddings we do enjoy working in colour too.

We had a chance also to make put a modern touch into the displays by making a "fan" with midilino sticks! We hope Pauline's realistic spiders were not too shocking.

Christmas, of course, gives us great pleasure when we do our best to make the church look beautiful and inviting. We are very grateful to Dave Sedgwick who came and gave us his invaluable help hanging up the garlands on the pillars. Many thanks once again to those who sponsored arrangements or gave a donation. We did 17 but, sadly, we still had to turn some people down. Fortunately we can offer another opportunity at Easter.

The Memory Tree was well-used again and raised £102 which has been donated to Herriot Hospice Homecare.

Many thanks to the ladies of the Guild who give so much of their time, talent (and foliage) .Special thanks to Jeanne Crombie who keeps us going with coffee and biscuits. Thanks again to Dot Tanfield who always provides something different for the link window.

We hope that our work has given lots of pleasure to all.

Dulcie Jones

Chairman Christ Church Flower Guild

Great Ayton Mothers' Union Report

2012 has seen a varied program for the branch. We started off the year with a very successful lunch arranged by Angela, at The King's Head, Newton.



Speakers included Peter Titchmarsh, one of our Readers; Gordon Hetherington, a retired coroner; Andrew Howard, Teesside University Chaplain and Jonathan Turner, from The Children's Society. A visitor from Teesside Hospice also came to tell us about their work. Rev. Peverell took our Lady Day Service where we enrolled three new members and admitted one from another branch. We diverted from our usual format at Easter when we held a competition for a miniature Easter Garden of Mount of Olives and Gethsemane.

June saw yet another very successful Village Fete where we raised funds for the M.U. In July we raised much needed funds by running a very enjoyable Fashion Show where other members from other branches also attended.

Quite a few of us attended the Deanery Festival at Stainton, the Archdeaconry Festival at Saltburn, the Deanery Carol Service at Stokesley and the Quiet Evening at Ingleby Barwick.

In December Rev. Peverell conducted the Carol Service which was very thought provoking.

Three large bin liners of clothing, toys, blankets and toiletries were taken to the Women's Refuge. Items for the Seafarers and the Baby Unit will be delivered shortly. Thank you for all the donations.

Make a Mother's Day raised £123 which was forwarded to Mary Sumner House.

Sadly, this year, two of our faithful members, Vera Winter and Jeanne Hewines, passed away. They will be greatly missed.

We are always looking for new members especially younger ones!!

Angela Jaques and Lynda Walker

The Firm

Deuteronomy 10 says “Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up”. The older Firm aims to keep this conversation about God and his Word going with young people aged 13 to 18. We want to keep reminding them how much Jesus loves them and also give them the opportunity to discuss what the bible says about issues that are relevant to their lives. One of the year’s highlights is the annual Firm Formal dinner where we welcome new members and say fond farewells to those off to University. We invite back our students so that they can share what they have learnt about being followers of Jesus at university. This year Jonathan and David spoke about the importance of getting involved with a church and other Christian students whilst you are at university as well the need to put God first in your student life.

We normally get 8 to 12 young people on a club night, but with the students it is nearer 25 for the Firm Formal. We run a number of larger events where we invite young people from the other Great Ayton and Stokesley churches and had over 50 at Low Farm House for a firework party in November with 40 plus for a summer BBQ.

It is important that young people know that they are not alone in their faith – so another highlight is the XLS Big Day Out at Lightwater Valley. Organised by the Diocese in conjunction with other Christian organisations it is a chance to be with 1500 other young people listening to Christian Bands, Bible teaching and having a lot of fun!

For me one of the great joys of doing this work is seeing young people growing in their faith and as a church we try to keep in touch with the students, not least through our `Student Boxes`, where we send boxes of cakes made by church members to all those at University with a connection with the church. Currently five graduates from the `Older Firm` are involved in running the Christian Unions in their University.

After 10 years leading The Firm I am stepping down from running the regular club nights this summer (although I will still organise some of the bigger events) – so we are looking for some new leaders to join Neil (our Stokesley School Youth worker), to carry on this conversation for one or two Sunday evenings a month.



Nick Land

Sunday Morning Coffee

Sunday Morning Coffee continues to be a very popular social gathering and a means of welcoming newcomers and visitors to our congregation. We average between 30-40 adults each week plus many Sunday School children. On occasions such as Remembrance Sunday we can almost double our numbers.



We are very fortunate in having a good team of ladies who regularly prepare the drinks and biscuits for after the 9.15am Sunday service. Occasionally, we have extra help from ladies in the congregation which is greatly appreciated. David Rowland continues to do an invaluable job of collecting the milk and opening our coffee cupboard most Sundays. Our thanks go to all concerned. Any profit we make goes towards the running of the Church Hall.

Pauline Titchmarsh and Val Moore

Contemplative Outreach

This is an ecumenical, international organisation. Started in 1983 by Father Thomas Keating and spreading to the four corners of the earth today. Contemplation requires some commitment, people who's lives are already very full have difficulty, in making that commitment. So it is a slow but steady progress, we have eight times over the year, in Christ Church, St, Margaret's and The Friends Meeting House, The Methodist Minister, has not as yet agreed to her church welcoming us, but she very kindly called on me to hear about Contemplative Outreach.

Other than that we meet every Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock, sometimes there are four and other times I am alone, either way it is alright. This year we hope to have a monk from Ampleforth Abbey talk to us about contemplation. And then perhaps we can persuade a Quaker to tell us about their method of prayer. Time will tell.

Ann Browne.

Little Fishes

We have now celebrated our 75th Little Fishes service. Despite some of our regulars moving on to nursery school on Tuesday mornings, the average attendance remains at 13/14 each week. It was very encouraging to welcome some new and returning Little Fishes in September 2012.

Active participation in the service is encouraged by the reading of prayers by parents and carers and 'guest' storytellers from time to time. We are delighted to welcome Vicky Gawthorpe, one of our young mums, who has now joined the Worship Team.



Thanks once again for the support of church members who willingly act as welcomers and sidespeople, storytellers, worship leaders and provide refreshments for playtime after the service.



Several of our young families also attend Come & Praise regularly and also special occasion celebrations eg. Love in a Box, Christingle, Carol and Crib services. At the annual Church Coffee Morning Little Fishes ran a

very successful toy stall with donations of second-hand toys; any remaining unsold goods were donated to the Middlesbrough Women's Refuge.

Little Fishes has now been running for over two years, we look forward to many more years of worship and funtime.

Angela Jaques

Christ Church Bell Ringers

Our Tower Team has had losses and additions this year. We now have thirteen young people ringing our bells on a regular basis. We were sad to lose two old ringers, but wish them well for the future. **John Hendry** rang for one and three quarter years, and is now at Hull University studying Law. **Grace McLean** rang for six months, and left us to pursue her other interests.

However we were delighted to welcome on board one new ringer who rapidly learnt the ropes. On behalf of the whole congregation I should like to express our appreciation for all our ringer's efforts, they don't always want to get up early on a Sunday morning!

For your interest our current ringers are:-

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Edward Land | Hannah Peverell | Ella Jones | Luke Banfield |
| William Jackson | Emily Sheriden | Libby Hendry | Elinor Northey |
| Matthew Sheridan | Tom Jackson | Harry Banfield | Oliver Northey |
| Caitlin Calgie | | | |

Since our last report the bells have rung for sixty six regular Sunday services and festivals, including ringing in the Olympics at 8.12am on the morning of the Opening Ceremony. They were booked for eight weddings, numbers are steadily rising. We already have sixteen booked for this year. They are a source of pocket money for our more senior ringers, strong enough to keep going for the extra time required, and contributing towards a modest Bell Fund used for extraneous expenses.



Our bells are serviced every two years by Smith of Derby Ltd., and are due in August 2013. Our Bell Sallys, now seventeen months old, have proved very popular with our ringers, very few hand blisters from the longer festival and wedding rings now!

We have an octave of Tubular Bells, rather than real bells, but it does mean the ropes are very easy to learn. Should you like any more information please contact Elsa Taylor on 722400.

Church Men's Group

Our final meeting of 2012 was led by Jonathan Turner, the new Regional Fundraiser for Children's Society in the North East. He challenged us to look at teenagers from a different perspective and despite the fact that he had a long journey ahead of him at the end of the evening he stayed for our discussion.



Earlier in the year our evening meals at the Royal Oak had been well attended for

talks by the current Chaplain for the University of Teesside and a former Industrial Mission Chaplain with extensive involvement across Yorkshire and the North East.

We enjoyed 2 Italian meals on our travels this year, one in Stockton and the other in Ripon. The first followed a most enjoyable evening in February watching the England U21 team beat Belgium 4 – 0 at the Riverside Stadium as part of their qualification for the 2013 European U21 Finals.

In April, a mixed group of 19 travelled to Ripon Cathedral to hear the Bishop of Bradford, the Right Reverend Nick Baines talk to the subject “Mixed messages: ethics and the media”

He is known as the “blogging bishop” for his enthusiastic approach to new media. Bishop Nick set out to examine the nature of journalism, its practices and challenges it has faced; though he said he hadn't expected to be giving this St Wilfrid Lecture in the week the Murdochs returned to the Leveson Inquiry. Several of us stayed on afterwards for our 2nd Italian meal of the year!

Geoff Jaques

Christ Church Parochial Hall

Christ Church Hall continues to be the venue of choice for many activities which are held here in Great Ayton. I have to thank my seriously reliable band of talented helpers, without whom I could not manage. Thanks must be extended also to "Sunday Coffee" Ladies and 200 Club Members for their donations to funds.

The year has seen a variety of dramatic productions including, the Twelve Days of Christmas & A Tomb with a View from the dramatic society, Peter Pan by the youth section of GADS and Annie Junior by the Bradley School of Dance & Musical Theatre. Once again we hosted the Charity Auction raising much needed funds & was enjoyed by all who attended. A first for us in September, was to host the RNLI Supper Dance "Diamonds are Forever": this was a great success & Christ Church Hall shone (please see photo). The plan is to continue to update and improve our Hall, so that it remains the venue of choice in this village for many years to come.



Jennifer Roberts
Hall Secretary

Parochial Hall 200 Club

During the year ended 31 October 2012, the scheme has raised £1047.50 for hall funds and 31 people were lucky enough to win a cash prize of between £15.00 and £50.00.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a very big THANK YOU! to all who subscribe and support the Parochial Hall 200 Club.

We have successfully acquired a few new Members this year and we thank them for their support but we are always looking for new members to support the scheme - Membership is £24.00 per year and can be paid by direct debit quarterly, half yearly or annually or annually by cheque.

If you would like to join or would like to know more simply call Julie on 07527075536 or 01642 723687.

Julie Leng & Jane Johnson

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

2012 has been a successful year with all our events well supported.

The Soup lunch, in March, was very hectic and the four extra helpers were much appreciated, especially as it was a very warm day and not usual Lent weather!



This year, Jane Simmonds has stepped down from the committee and we thank her for all her work with us. We have also had a change in our Regional Fund Raising manager: Laura left to cover an area closer to her home and we welcomed Jonathan Turner, who is based in Leeds. Some members have already met him as he has spoken to both the Mother's Union and to the Men's group.

Thank you to all the counters at the Box opening. It is a big help to have the extra counters as a high proportion of our box owners bring them to the coffee morning. We have 23 new box holders this year, making a total of 86.

Thank you for donations from St Oswald's, Newton, and Christ Church.

We had a full church for the Christingle service, at which, the young drama group from the village performed "Bringing the light," other young people sang and the prayers were led by members of the Sunday school.



The annual carol singing took place on a very wet morning but despite the weather, 25 singers were accompanied by John Appleyard and Jamie Harvie playing guitars. It was an enjoyable morning and the shoppers were generous. Following the carols, many of us enjoyed coffee and mince pies kindly donated by the Royal Oak.

Our total raised for 2012 was £9122.69, a sum only made possible by your support and the hard work of the committee.

Thank you all very much,

Marina Charlton Chairman.

Marwood Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant School

Another busy and successful year to report in the long history of Marwood School.



Mrs Celia Wilson, the joint head teacher of Marwood and Kirkby and Great Broughton Church of England Primary School (KGB for short), continues to run both schools with great skill and enthusiasm. There have been good benefits from both schools working closely together, in terms of staff training etc. All the teachers and dedicated teaching assistants work together to provide Great Ayton children with an excellent early education. This has been recognised by the recent Church SIAS inspection. This stands for Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools. The Vicar wrote about the inspection in the February 2013 issue of Spire magazine. The Inspector was very complimentary giving Outstanding in all areas. This is the highest achievable outcome. As a Church community we can be proud that the Christian impact on the education and worship of the children at Marwood is so good.

As well as closer links with the nearby school at KGB, Marwood has also recently continued to benefit from international links with Sri Lanka. Mrs Wilson and Mrs Winterschladen were fortunate to be chosen for a week's exchange with two schools there. They spent a week in Mahanama Primary School and Nishanka National School in the Monaragala district. They returned full of stories and ideas



to show and tell to Marwood children. Lots of differences between the schools and cultures but also lots of similarly happy children.

Ann Whittaker
Foundation Governor

Celia Wilson
Headteacher

Guiding in Great Ayton

Great Ayton District has had another very successful year with all units enjoying many activities both indoors and outside. Most units are either full or nearly full with just a few spaces available. We've been able to welcome three new leaders to various units, Eleanor to 2nd Great Ayton Guides; Kay to 1st Great Ayton Guides and Amy to 3rd Great Ayton Brownies. We also have one retirement this year, after many years Linda Davey has retired from Guiding, we hope she enjoys her retirement and would like to publicly thank her for all she has done for Guiding.



All units have followed the programme appropriate to their section, done activities based on the Olympics and the Queen's Jubilee and took part in the Village Fete.

I'd like to thank all the leaders and young leaders for all their hard work over the year providing the girls with the opportunities to try new things. Most of the Guides and the Senior Section Unit went to Sheffield to the Big Gig in October and all the Rainbows went to Kirkleatham Museum and Owl Centre to celebrate 25 years of Rainbows.

The social side of Guiding for the adults involved is also important, with District and Division social events throughout the year. The Trefoil Guild is active in Great Ayton with regular meetings and outings. There are 2 Rainbow, 3 Brownie and 2 Guide Units in the village along with the Division Senior Section Unit (for those aged 14-25). Most of the units are full but there are some spaces available.

We are looking for leaders to help at Guides on a Monday night and Rainbows on a Tuesday night so please get in touch if you are interested.

Alison Lambert
Leven Division Commissioner

2nd Great Ayton Rainbows

2012 was the 25th Birthday of Rainbows, which in true guiding fashion had a birthday challenge and badge to work for. We iced fairy cakes, painted canvases, made junk boats and edible necklaces to name but a few.

On a breezy cold afternoon, Mark Phalp took all the girls up to Aireyholme Farm on a large trailer pulled by the tractor. It was a bumpy but fun ride. Timing couldn't have been better as we managed to see twin lambs that had just been born – they named them Rainbow & Beaver. The girls all got to feed some of the older lambs.

We had a Division Rainbow day to celebrate the birthday at Kirkleatham Museum and Owl Centre, which despite getting wet a number of times was enjoyed by all. We saw all sorts of birds and creatures at the Owl centre which some of the girls got to hold, needless to say when the giant cockroaches and stick insects were out the guiders were at the back of the room!

The wet weather certainly hampered some of our activities but we still managed a trip to the beach with the brownies and guides at the end of the summer term when we enrolled 4 of the girls on the beach. It gets very competitive for the best sand sculptures – and that's just the parents!

September brought some better weather, which allowed us to get out before the nights drew in. We've made cress heads, peg dolls, Halloween hats and Christmas crafts. We ended the term with a trip to the Pantomime to see Peter Pan and a Christmas party.

Christine Kenyon
Rainbow Leader

Ist Great Ayton Brownies

We have enjoyed another busy year and still have a full pack.

We have enjoyed our usual outside excursions over the year walking at Guisborough Walkway, egg rolling at Gribdale, floating junk boats on the river (the weather that evening should have been a warning as to the coming summer....) and a few of us bravely battled the foul weather and walked from Stokesley back to Great Ayton – through as many muddy puddles as possible. We also spent a fun evening on the beach at Redcar with the Rainbows and Guides building sand castles.

We worked on the Queens Jubilee Challenge and the girls made some beautiful Indian elephants with the top half of a plastic milk bottle and worked on some Christmas crafts.

Much fun was had when we visited the Fire Station at Grangetown, the girls faces were a picture as they disappeared off round the yard in the engines with sirens blaring and lights flashing.



We ended our year with a trip to Middlesbrough pantomime, as the whole theatre was full of Rainbows, Brownies and Guides there was quite an atmosphere.

By the end of the year both Natalie Hosie and Anna Smithies had both moved on to University and I thanks them for their help and company over many years, we now have our usual three leaders and Ashleigh Huntsman is just about to sign off her Adult Leadership Qualification, we are also fortunate to have three girls working on DofE and young leader qualifications – these are the Leaders of the future and we are proud of them all.

Alison Selby
Brownie Leader

1st Great Ayton Guides

We have had another fun filled year. We have enjoyed an outdoor activity weekend where we tried climbing, absailing and quad biking alongside some other great challenging activities. We also enjoyed a trip to Sheffield to the Big Gig a pop concert for guides and senior section, we all looked great in the theme of black with a bit of bling! We have enjoyed working on different badges including Agility and First aid, walks around the local area including a very wet walk from Stokesley to Great Ayton where we enjoyed some much deserved chips! We had good fun trying out Yoga and a interesting talk from a past member about her fantastic trip to one of the Guide world centres in India. We finished the year with a trip to the pantomime to see Peter Pan.

Veronica Hare
Guider

Leven Division Senior Section Report 2012

Leven Senior Section is a twice monthly meeting for girls from across Great Ayton, Stokesley and Hutton Rudby Districts aged between 14 and 25. We currently have 25 girls on the register and regularly have between 15 and 20 attending meetings. This bucks the trend nationally for girls of this age and proves we are doing something right!

Over the last twelve months we have been climbing at Middlesbrough climbing wall, done Yoga with the Guides and made paper with a fantastic lady from Helmsley. The girls cooked for us in a Come Dine with Me/Ready Steady Cook type challenge and have learnt some Archery skills.

We volunteered to be bodies for Cleveland Mountain Rescue Team, on one of their evening practices, and having been allocated their 'injures' the girls were evacuated by various means including stretchers to help train the team in a larger scale incident.

It's not all fun and we have also investigated the Guiding Promise and done some team building nights. Another session of night orienteering, a walk from Newton to Ayton and an evening making a padded pin board just about covers everything. Special mention must go to the night they spent making vegetable sculptures – they were truly inspired!

Thanks go to all the other Leaders who help out and here's looking forward to another busy year.

Alison Selby
Senior Section Guider

1st Great Ayton Scout Group

1st Great Ayton Scout Group

The Scout Group continues to thrive with an enthusiastic membership of over 100 young people. The leadership team provides a strong programme of indoor and outdoor activities, with the emphasis very much on adventurous activities outdoors, both in summer and winter. Our membership covers a wide age range, from 6 years to 18 years and consists of a Beaver Scout Colony, 2 Cub Scout Packs, 2 Scout Troops and an Explorer Scout Unit.

The Beaver Colony

The Beaver colony continues to be very popular with the 6 to 8 year old boys of Great Ayton. We are always at our limit of 24 Beavers with many on the waiting list ready to take up a place as soon as one becomes available. We meet on a Friday evening when the Beavers enjoy letting off steam after a week at school. We mix up activities based round the 6 challenge badges. This year for indoor activities we have tried vegetable printing, knots, junk insect models, identifying garden birds and making bird feeders, making chocolate tiffin cake and recognising flags and learning about Beavers from other countries. A highlight was our science experiments night when fish swam by soap power, volcanoes erupted and flying zoomers were made and flown. To pass on a blessing we made Christmas cards and delivered them to the residents of Church Drive. In between these activities we have some favourite games that we play in the hut. Through the winter we are grateful for the hut but the best place for Beavers is outside. We get out as often as is practical all through the year. We have enjoyed some special crisp dark night walks this winter on which we have learned some star constellations and seen resplendent Jupiter. Up on Easby moor



we used the dark to perform a very effective experiment to show that light travels faster than sound. Beavers long for snow and we had a super sledding night in January. Through the summer and autumn we enjoyed many, often muddy, adventure walks, fossil collecting, paddling and burying a Beaver at the beach, a super visit to Coulby Newham fire station, tracking the young leaders up at Gribdale and ever popular visits to Broughton Park and Pinchinthorpe branch walkway. We finished the summer term with our customary family sausage sizzle. This year on that occasion we said goodbye to Steph after four years as a dedicated leader.

The highlight of the year for Beavers is always the Beaver sleepover camp. This year we joined up with Stokesley and Hutton Rudby Beavers to hold a district camp at Raven Gill in Commondale. We had a fabulous time being shipwrecked on and exploring Raven Gill island, building shelters, sleeping in bunks, following ancient treasure maps to solve clues and find the hidden treasure chests and finishing with the obligatory mega water battle.

Endeavour Cub Pack

Endeavour Pack has continued to enjoy a wide range of activities.

Camp was at Ravengill again and a great time was had by all with constant sunshine. This year's main activity was Thundercat racing (these are small very fast inflatable power boats) and paddle boarding at Hartlepool marina. The weather was so good that the boys were even voluntarily jumping into the water afterwards. The first camp where we have had to worry that the boys may not be drinking enough. In October of 2012 we visited Redcar Lifeboat station which was a great trip. The following day I received an email from the station manager saying that the boys had been one of the best behaved groups that had visited - "a credit to themselves and the cubs".

Tuesday Scout Troop

It is difficult to outline all that Tuesday Scout have done during 2012, as we have done that much. However, here is just a brief summary.

During a brisk January walk The Shooting Box saw a fitting place to invest 3 new scouts into the troop. More down to earth, Tiger Woods would have been proud of the troop following



a visit to Stokesley Golf Range. Lent once again proved really popular, everyone is more than capable of making pancakes, some even had normal fillings! There were visits to Redcar Lifeboat Station, Middlesbrough Hindu Temple and Billingham Ice Rink. All of which were enjoyed. Following last year's successful inaugural mountain biking ride, the scouts decided it had to be done again. Once again, really enjoyed by all, and no, the hills were not that big!

Summer camp was once again at Ravengill though for 5 days this year. The scouts enjoyed sailing, foraging, cooking, camp fires, competitions, swimming and much much more. The Scouts just cannot wait for next year's camp.

The fitness challenge badges were gained after a series of "fitness nights" the troop know what hard work is now!. The troop created its own unique woggles, Christingles for the Children's Society and Yule logs.

Time for a break and then a new year.....

Thursday Scout Troop

Thursday Troop's camp in the Lake District proved to be a battle against rising water, but this did not dampen the enthusiasm of the scouts cooking over open fires in the rain! During camp, they visited Langdale and Ambleside Mountain Rescue Team headquarters to learn of their work and practise first aid techniques and mountain stretcher carrying.



The year had started out with a weekend winter camp in January, held in Nidderdale. High wind was the element to be battled with here, but all survived!

The troop has held regular outdoor activities throughout the year – night hikes, devilish capture games in the dark on the local moors and woods! We have had driftwood fires on the beach, backwoods cooking in the woods,

navigation exercises and simple silly games – mostly in the wet and the dark – this is scouting!

Indoor fun has included a “head torch night” at the Rockantics climbing wall at Spennymoor, climbing in the dark.

The troop is hoping to raise money for the Tees Wheelyboats Club – a charity which operates specially adapted boats on the River Tees to enable wheelchair-bound people to enjoy boating on the river.

The Scouts have also worked towards a number of challenge awards and badges including the Chief Scouts Award.

Explorer Unit:

In June, we entered a team in the Shenington 24 hour Le Mans-style pedal car race at Banbury - a fun race which sees teams of 6 battling round a go kart circuit from midday on Saturday to midday on Sunday. Race cars must pass scrutineering before the race and must have regulation front and rear lights for the night portion of the race. Plans are already in hand to enter an additional team for this year's race. October saw two teams competing in the Cleveland Operation Escape Competition – navigating a 2 day route over the North York Moors, carrying full equipment, whilst avoiding capture by cunning leaders. A test of design skills took the form, one evening, of a rubber-band powered model car evening, whilst cooking expertise was challenged with the “nutritional meal to feed 4 for £4” challenge - from

purchasing the ingredients at the supermarket to cooking the meal over a methylated spirit stove!

Other activities have included ice skating, golf range, soap carving, silly Olympics and BBQ, “spaghetti and marshmallow” tower construction, many outdoor games, climbing and a variety of cooking challenges both indoor and outdoor - over open fires.

St Georges Day Parade

The Scout District St. Georges Day Parade was held in Great Ayton this year – in the wettest conditions on record. Steady, heavy rain throughout the morning prompted the RevPev to ask, “Do we have a plan B?” “Yes,” came the reply, “We march in the rain!” The turnout was excellent and nobody complained - except for the band leading the parade, who were not scouts!



Bonfire and Fireworks Display

In November, the Scout Group held a very successful firework and bonfire display for the village. The weather was more kind this year and the event was a great success. Our thanks to Mark and Kay Fletcher for allowing us to use their farm for the event and their invaluable help in many ways, including building the bonfire and clearing up the following day.

Our Supporters Committee continues to organise fundraising events for the group – to raise money in support of our activities for young people and to provide fun events for parents and supporters. Future events include a Magic Evening for all the family in March and the ever-popular village Duck Race in May.

As ever, the Scout Group would like to thank Christ Church for their sponsorship of the Scout Group. We very much appreciate the use of the church grounds for our hut and the use of the Parochial Church Hall and equipment on many occasions

Ian McWilliam
Group Scout Leader



The Parish of Great Ayton with Easby

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

20th March 2013 at 7.30pm in the Parochial Hall

Meeting of Parishioners

1. Election of Churchwardens

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the last meeting 21st March 2012
3. Matters arising
4. Electoral Roll Report
5. Presentation of Annual Report for 2012
6. Financial Report and Presentation of Audited Accounts for year end 31st December 2012.
7. The Vicar's Comments
8. Election of Parochial Church Council members
9. Appointment of Sidesmen and women
10. Appointment of Independent Examiners
11. Any Questions on Church matters for consideration by the PCC