

The  
Magazine of the  
Church of England in  
Great Ayton with  
Easby & Newton  
under Roseberry  
Parishes

# Spire

DECEMBER 2013 & JANUARY 2014



**Christmas Blessings and  
a Happy New Year to all  
our Readers**

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

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**50p**

# DECEMBER & JANUARY

- 1st Sun** **ADVENT SUNDAY** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; **11am Holy Communion at Newton.** 5pm Christingle at Christ Church
- 2nd Mon** **Carol Service @ Hollygarth** at 2pm. All Welcome
- 3rd Tues** **Little Fishes** at 9.30am in Christ Church
- 8th Sun** **ADVENT 2** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; 11am Come and Praise: 4pm Freemasons' Christmas Carol Service.
- 10th Tues** **Little Fishes** at 9.30am in Christ Church: **First Night of Sleeping Beauty in Parochial Hall at 7pm.** (See page for other nights)
- 11th Wed** **Marwood Christmas Production** at 1.30pm in Parochial Hall  
MU Carol Service in Church at 2pm
- 12th Thurs** **Marwood Christmas Production** at 6pm in Church Hall
- 15th Sun** **ADVENT 3** (Foodbank Sunday) 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; **11am All Age Christmas Service at Newton.**
- See overleaf for other Christmas Services.*
- 18th Tues** **Little Fishes** at 9.30am in Christ Church:
- 22nd Sun** **ADVENT 4** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; 6pm Christmas Carol Service:
- 29th Sun** **CHRISTMAS 1** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; **11am Holy Communion at Newton.**

**January 2014 - in brief *Happy New Year!***

- 6th Mon** **Holy Communion at Hollygarth** at 2pm. All Welcome
- 10th Fri** **Church Visitors Meet at 1.45pm in Upper Room**
- 19th Sun** **Christian Unity Service at Friends at 4pm**
- 20th Mon** **PCC Dinner at Royal Oak**
- 22nd Wed** **PCC Meeting at 7.30pm in Upper Room**

**Items in Magenta all take place at St Oswald's Church at Newton, and the remainder at Christ Church, unless otherwise stated.**

# Christmas Services 2013



## Monday 2nd December

2.00pm Hollygarth Carol Service

## Sunday 8th December

4.00pm Freemasons Carol Service

## Wednesday 11th December

2.00pm Mothers' Union Christmas Carol Service

## Sunday 15th December

11.00am *All Age Christmas Service at St Oswald's, Newton*

## Monday 16th December

7.00pm *Christmas Carols on High Green*



## Tuesday 17th December

7.30pm *All Saints Carol Service\*\**

## Thursday 19th December

7.30pm *Christmas Carol Service at St Oswald's, Newton\*\**

## Friday 20th December

10.30am Marwood & Roseberry Schools' Carol Service

## Sunday 22nd December (*Morning Services as normal*)

6.00pm Christ Church Christmas Carol Service\*\*

## Christmas Eve

2.00pm *Christmas Communion at Hollygarth Hall*

5.00pm Crib Service\*\*

10.00pm *Christmas Communion at St Oswald's, Newton*

11.30pm Midnight Mass of the Nativity

## Christmas Day

8.30am Christmas Communion (Prayer Book Service)

9.30am Christmas Communion & Carols



## Thursday 26th December - St Stephen's Day

9.30am Holy Communion

All Services are in Christ Church, unless otherwise stated *in italics*

\*\* Denotes that a collection is taken for the Christmas Appeal



## Christmas is a wonderful time, but...

I love Christmas, don't you? I'm not thinking of the interminable shopping that often characterises the season, for that does nothing for me. Within half an hour of going shopping with Karen she will exclaim "I don't know why I brought you with me!" Both in full agreement there then! Like weddings, the Christmas spend often goes completely over the top.

What I love are all the extra activities, services, pantos and fun that can be had this time of year.

As you can see, December is once again the time to shave off the beard and don a frock as the Dame in the Bradley's School of Dance Pantomime. This year it is Sleeping Beauty, and if you fancy some fun and want to support our local community, then come along. "Oh yes you will!"

We have carol services galore to choose from, and the puppet nativity will be making an appearance at both the Come and Praise at Christ Church on the 8th December and the All Age Service at St Oswald's on the 15th December.

We also had great fun doing this year's Christmas Card - a preview on the front page. Alison and Andrew Prunty's first baby was due that day and we managed to snatch one shot of Simon Monaghan looking serious between falling about with laughter! Baby Abigail made her appearance five days later and is doing well. Had it all been for real, with a young couple with nowhere to stay and a baby due, there would have been no smiles around.

Being on your own or in need, always seems so much worse at Christmastime when other people are enjoying themselves. Many folk long for Christmas to be over and the normal routine to return so they see people. In your Christmas, spare a thought for the outsider, the person on their own, the folk having a hard time. Invite someone round, or ask them out for Christmas is all about God showing his love to a world in need.

We will be having our last Foodbank Collection of the year on Sunday December 15th, so why not bring along something festive, like a Christmas Pud or a box of crackers? On Sunday January 19th, all the Churches in Stokesley Deanery are holding a Foodbank Sunday so to help stock them up for the winter months, so try and bring something along.

Have a Happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year. **Paul**

# Advent Thoughts

The Church's New Year always starts on Advent Sunday (our Christingle day) which is always 4 Sundays before Christmas. This year it happens to be on 1st December coinciding with all the chocolates on your Advent Calendar, but it can be in late November or early December.



Advent is a season of preparation. It literally means “coming” and helps us remember when Christ came that first Christmas. Traditionally in Churches there are no flowers in Advent, the sombre colour purple is used and the hymn tunes often have a more solemn tone. The Gloria is omitted in the Communion Service and the Kyries (Lord have mercy) inserted instead. We do this, so when the Festival of Christmas comes it is a real celebration as flowers fill the Church, the colour of white or gold is worn and we sing jolly Christmas carols. You know how flat and bare everything feels when you take all your decorations down? Well, its the opposite of that feeling we are trying to achieve.



At one time no Christmas carols would be sung in Churches until Christmas Eve, and that is when all the decorations would go up too. The season of Christmas would last for the 12 days of Christmas up to Epiphany - 6th January, when we remember the coming of the Wise Men as the Christ Child was revealed to the non Jewish world. All Christmas decorations would be down by January 5th, twelfth night.

Today most churches are not as dogmatic as this, and join in with people celebrating Christmas earlier in December. In both Christ Church and Saint Oswald's we have our Christmas Carol Services before the season of Christmas officially starts for the simple reason we want people to come to them!

But Advent also has another meaning, as it reminds us that the Christ who came at that first Christmas will one day return as our judge. So being true to its message isn't just about giving us nice feelings in worship, it is also about challenging us to work for justice, peace and fairness in the world and reaching out in love to those who need it, for he is coming back - so look busy!.



So have a good Advent, a Christmas that reaches out to others, and a Happy New Year.



## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If anyone wishes to sponsor one of the Christmas arrangements in memory of a loved one or event, please contact either Dulcie Jones 01642 722013 or Marina Charlton 01642 723087. The suggested amount is £25 and a small laminated card will be placed by the arrangement recalling the memory in which it is given.



## The Memory Tree

The Memory Tree will appear in Christ Church in the first week of December. It is a way of remembering loved ones who have died, but are still in our hearts, especially at this time of year.

Just come into Church and write a message or simply their name on one of the cards and hang it on the tree.

Any donations made will be sent to support Herriott Hospice Homecare who do so much to support the terminally ill in our area.



## Charity Auction of Surplus Gifts

Get ready for our Charity Auction of Surplus Christmas gifts on **Saturday 1st February in the Church Hall from 2pm (Viewing from 1.30pm)**. Put to one side those items you don't really need and bring them along to raise funds for a worthy cause - still to be decided.



**The Bradley School of Dance & Musical Theatre**

**proudly present**

# ***Sleeping Beauty***



**CHRIST CHURCH HALL  
Great Ayton**

**Tuesday 10th December, Wednesday 11th, Friday 12th at 7pm**

**Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th at 2pm.**

**Tickets £6, Concessions (Children & OAPs) £4.50**

**Contact Box Office 01642 723250**

**Tickets also available from**

**The Discovery Centre (Formerly the Library), Great Ayton  
Tues, Thurs and Saturday Mornings only.**

## THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The quiz earlier in the month was an enjoyable evening at The Royal Oak, resulting in a profit of £387.35.



On Sunday, 1st December, the Christingle Service will take place at 5pm. in Christ Church. Candles and envelopes can be obtained from the back of the church.

On Saturday, 21st December, between 10.30 & 11.30 a.m. the committee will be singing carols on the High Street - any willing volunteers are welcome to join them.

On behalf of the Ayton committee I wish you a Happy Christmas & Healthy New Year.

**Jancie Brown**

### A Poem for Christmas

" What did you get for Christmas?"  
"A wooden trough with hay to sleep in,  
Some swaddling clothes  
An old towel for a nappy,  
(I was told I'd make people happy) ;  
Oh, and a sheep to play with."  
"Anything else?"  
Oh, yes, three posh people came  
And each brought a present,  
Gold, ointment and scent.  
I would have liked an iPhone or a teddy.  
Now, I've had a long day and I'm ready for sleep  
As I've got much to do."



**Jim Knights**

# Mothers' Union News

Thank you to all those who helped and attended the MU quiz night at the Oak. The total raised was £157.70 which will go to the projects of the MU both in this country and abroad. A special thank you goes to Alan who stepped in at the last minute to be quiz master. A good night was had by all!



Thank you also to those who read their favourite poem at our November meeting and for those who suggested speakers for the next year's programme.

**Thursday December 5th** Deanery Carol Service at Brookfield 2pm

**Wednesday December 11th** MU Carol Service 2pm followed by Mince pies. All welcome

**Wednesday January 8th** Social afternoon with our friends from the other Churches 2pm Pooled tea

**Wednesday February 5th** Annual General Meeting 2pm

**Elaine Brown**

## Good News!

After attending an over night selection camp near York with 67 other North Yorkshire Scouts Rhys was selected to be part of the 27 strong contingent representing North Yorkshire at the 23rd World Scout Jamboree in Japan in 2015.

Rhys needs to raise in the region of £3,000 for this amazing trip, flying in to Tokyo, 10 days at the camp in Yamaguchi Prefecture then a home stay with a Japanese family - 3 weeks in total. He is planning a Boxing Day dip in the North Sea, cake sales and a big sponsored challenge next year. He will also have to participate in fundraising for the North Yorkshire group.



# The Christmas Menorah



During the wee hours of Sunday morning, December 8, 1996, after the third night of Hanukkah, someone took a baseball bat and broke the front window of a house in Newtown, Pennsylvania. It was the only house on the street with a lighted menorah in the window, and the criminals reached through the shattered glass and smashed the menorah.

The menorah is used to celebrate the eight-day Jewish Festival of Lights, also known as Hanukkah, which occurs around the same time as Christmas. As a nativity scene reminds Christians of their heritage and faith, so does a menorah for Jews. The woman who lived in the vandalized house was no stranger to prejudice. As a child, she had come with her mother, a Holocaust survivor, and her father to the United States to escape persecution in the Soviet Union. Now, as she viewed the smashed menorah, the familiar fear returned.

Lisa Keeling, a young mother who lived down the street, heard about the incident on returning from mass with her family. She was appalled. Newtown has about fifteen hundred families, representing many cultures and religions. Lisa had never heard of anyone being singled out because of faith or ethnicity. How would she feel if someone desecrated a crèche on her lawn? she wondered. Unless everyone were free to practice religious beliefs, no one could be free. Lisa had an idea. She said to her husband, "I'd like to put a menorah in our front window so that family will know they are not going through this alone. If the vandals come back, they'll have to target us, too. What do you think?" Lisa's husband didn't hesitate. "Go for it," he said.

Lisa soon ran into another neighbour, Margie Alexander, who had been as horrified as Lisa when she heard the news and was also eager to act. Margie started driving from store to store, looking for menorahs, with Lisa calling all the likely sources and relaying the information to Margie on her car phone. Word got around, and several Christian neighbours dropped by, asking where to purchase a menorah. Margie and Lisa bought up all they could and distributed them just before sundown—time to light the next candle. Then Lisa took down the Christmas lights in one of her windows and put the menorah there, all by itself. "I didn't want there to be any doubt about the statement we were making," she recalls.

That night, when the Jewish woman turned onto her street, she stopped in amazement. Greeting her was a sea of orange menorah lights, shining in silent solidarity from the windows of all eighteen Christian households on her block. Blinking back tears, she went home, replaced the broken bulbs in her own menorah and put it back in the window.

Margie and Lisa are hanging menorahs again this Christmas. "It's become the most cherished part of my Christmas," Margie says, "and it taught me a wonderful lesson: Just one little step in the right direction can make life better for everyone.

## Love in a Box 2013

Another good year for the Love in a Box Appeal with 235 boxes coming in from local schools and Churches to be taken via Preston of Potto to poor children in Romania.



*Building a wall of boxes*

Romania is perhaps the poorest country in Europe, and without Love in a Box, many children may not get a present, so thank you to all who have supported it.

Love in a Box Sunday was very busy at Christ Church, for as well as the boxes, we were also collecting for the Middlesbrough Foodbank and running an appeal for the Philippine Typhoon Disaster Appeal.

The local schools taking part were not all that different, as the Friday before was Children in Need day, and they were also handing out Christingle candles.

There are great needs in the world, but we also do see great generosity, so thank you all for all you do in supporting so many good causes. If we leave the world a better place with our efforts, then we are doing a good job.



*Leading the prayers in the service*



*Helping load the boxes*



*Children at Ingleby Greenhow school welcoming Rev Pev for his annual Love in a Box visit.*

## PCC Jottings

Here are a few things that the PCC discussed at their last meeting in November.

**Wedding Legislation** Permission has now been granted by the Diocesan Registry for this Benefice (Great Ayton and Newton under Roseberry) so that if you qualify to be married in one of the Churches, you now automatically have the choice of either. The Vicar noted that we already have 19 weddings booked between the Parishes next year - the highest total in living memory!



**Charitable Giving** The PCC had a budgeted £8,000 to donate to Mission and Charity and were also given an additional gift of £5,000 by a Church member to be spent on overseas work. At the PCC this was apportioned as follows.

**Overseas.** £1,000 each to the Church Mission Society, United Society (formerly USPG), our South African link Diocese of Cape Town and School Aid India. £500 each to Eating Stones - Kenya, Children in Distress - Romania, and to the Gideon's and Bible Society for overseas projects. (£6,000 total)

**Home** £3,000 to the Stokesley School Christian Youthworker Project. £1,000 each to Oli Simmons working as a Christian outreach worker with students in Leeds, the Church Army, Middlesbrough Foodbank, £500 each to Yatton House and the Children's Society. (£7,000 total)

**Christmas Appeal** It was unanimously agreed that this year our Christmas Appeal at all our Carol Services support **A Way Out**. This is a charity based in Stockton that supports vulnerable young people living on the fringes of society and working to keep them away from drugs, crime and prostitution.

**Giving in Grace** Last May Great Ayton Church Council looked at what would be a generous offer for us to make to the Diocese, given all that we have to be thankful for. We have offered £82,500 next year, and this is in addition to our running costs and Mission Giving. We can only hope people will be generous with us if we are seen to be generous in our response to God. In 2014 we will be looking at what it means to give in grace.

Great Ayton and Newton's responses have been a great encouragement to the Diocese, and it is good that it should be so for we have so much to be thankful for. We are all still very much receivers in terms of God's love. See next page for our Archbishop's message.

## When the going gets tough, the Body of Christ gets giving

I have often heard people say that 'when the going gets tough, the tough get going'. Well, the going is really tough for many people worried about jobs, mortgages, rising fuel costs and how are we going to afford Christmas this year? Yet all is not lost. What I have seen time and again in these difficult days, is that when the going gets tough, the Body of Christ in you gets giving.



I have been overcome by the generosity that I have seen in response to the Foodbanks that have been set up across the Diocese. Did you know that York Minster has donated half a tonne of food to the Middlesbrough Foodbank? In the village of Thirkleby, the local phone box was used as a collecting point for the Foodbank right up until the point when BT removed the phone box! Food is now collected outside the village hall.

In responding to the needs of others, we are allowing ourselves to emulate the very character of the God of justice, mercy and love. For God did not abandon a world in need, nor did He just send us a message or an email. Instead He turned up in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ, to bring forgiveness for all past sins, gave new life in the present and hope for the future. Now when the going gets tough, we know that we have God the Holy Spirit with us - and Christ who promised never to abandon us. His presence will see us through and help us to respond to a world that so desperately needs to know that generosity of God.

I know that the going is still tough. As we look forward to Christmas I pray that those who worry that they don't have enough will be able to receive the gift of the generosity of others. I pray too that those of us who do have enough will be able to demonstrate the amazing grace of God through our generosity with all that we have.

Whoever we are and whatever our circumstances, we worship the God and Father of our Lord Jesus who has already given everything for us. How can we respond with anything less?

As the Christmas carol says,  
'What can I give Him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part.  
Yet, what can I give him? Give my heart.'

**+Sentamu Eboracum**

# Captain Cook Service

A bright and sharp morning greeted Captain Cook's Day in the village in October as we paid tribute to perhaps our best known villager.



*A wreath was laid by Councillor Bob Baker, Chairman of Hambleton District Council.*

After a swift moving Parade of sail down a fast flowing river Leven in the morning, guests gathered together in All Saints Church for a service to commemorate Cook.

As well as Civic Guests from local authorities we were also joined by many volunteers from the newly refurbished

Captain Cook Schoolroom Museum in the village.

Guests were invited back to the Church Hall after the service, and following a warm welcome from the Chairman of our Parish Council, Frances Greenwell, we were treated to a lovely buffet meal served by the Royal Oak and kindly provided by the Parish Council.

Following the meal we made our way to High Green where a wreath was laid at the Cook statue. By Councillor Bob Baker, Chairman of Hambleton District Council.

Why do we go to such fuss? If it hadn't been for Thomas Skottowe paying for an education for young James Cook when he was in our village, he may never have gone on to discover and chart all the new lands he did. As well as his achievements back then, he is also most probably the biggest draw we have for visitors to our village today, thus bringing in much needed revenue to the local shops and economy.

Well done James, and well done Parish Council for continuing to keep his profile high in our village.

## Where do you meet God?

We encounter God at different places and on different occasions.

In Celtic Spirituality certain locations were called 'thin places' – places where the division between heaven and earth was said to be at its narrowest and where God could be sensed as close and real.

Where is your 'thin place'?

A building? – mine would be Bolton Abbey Church. On a mountain top like Catstycam or watching the sun set, or water fall; walking along the side of a lake or along the seashore?

Maybe it's a place of work and you meet God in those who come for help or guidance?



If you haven't found yours yet do have a look at <http://www.embody.co.uk/> It shares some of the amazing different experiences people have of God, and puts the question in our minds “*am I alert to the possibility that God might be (is?) very near me now?*”

Or maybe the actual physical place isn't what makes a difference for you. It could be when you take time out to be with God sitting in a chair in your own home or a bench in the garden or sitting in your car (stationary, I trust).

If a “thin place” is where we feel God's presence close to us and are drawn to respond to it could you find that place on the internet? <http://www.pray-as-you-go.org/> is a free daily podcast produced by the British Jesuits and other experts in the spirituality of St Ignatius of Loyola. Its designed for ordinary folk like you and I – both active Christians and those not sure – and its intended to be used as part of a regular day, while travelling, or washing up, or whatever. Each session lasts about 12 minutes and combines music, scripture and some reflection. It aims to stimulate your own prayer and awareness of God and be aware of God in your life. Why not try it for 10 days - either from the website, or download the app or subscribe through iTunes or similar.

Where do you meet God?

**Geoff Jaques**

# YORKSHIRE CANCER RESEARCH

## Great Ayton & District Committee

The Halloween Party was a great afternoon with children and adults dressing up and taking part in the games and dancing.



The Ingleby Greenhow ladies have booked the Village Hall for the Coffee Morning on Saturday March 15th. 2014.



On Wednesday 20th November we enjoyed a very successful **Not a Lunch** in the Church Hall, with another brilliant attendance. Thank you to all who supported it in so many different ways and the team who work so hard.

The Y.C.R. committee would like to thank everyone for the generous support given during 2013 and wish a healthy, happy New Year to all.

**Margaret Stevens**

# Someone Stole my Mummy



Great Ayton Dramatic Society are pleased to present the Northern Premier of a new comedy, **Someone Stole My Mummy**. Let us transport you all the way from ancient Egypt to decadent art capital of Europe, Paris. Learn the misfortune that caused the demise of the boy King Pharaoh Tootin Khamun and the comedy of errors over his mummification. With the intervention of tomb robbers the mummy arrives in Paris and takes its revenge on the art world; stopped only by the skill of the police in the style of Inspector

Clouseau. For information about GADS please look at our website <http://www.greataytondrama.org.uk/>

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January to Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January,  
7:30 pm every evening. Christ Church Hall,  
Guisborough Road, Great Ayton**

**Tickets from Thompson's Hardware in January, or call the box office 01642 722096. Also available on the door.**

## OTHER NEWS

Great Ayton Dramatic Society are delighted to have received a significant grant from the Co-operative Membership Community Fund to help purchase new lighting equipment. The Co-op is always keen to feed back some of its dividends into the community to support local organisations. In the current climate, it is difficult to find support for art based groups, the society is grateful for the generous help from the Co-op



Membership Community Fund. Elaine Driver representing the Community Fund and Rachel Pearson the manager of the Great Ayton Co-op presented the cheque to Joyce Binns, chairperson and Dave White, Treasurer of GADS, at a recent rehearsal.

The society has also received a small grant from the Sir George Martin Trust, which will also be used to improve the society's technical equipment. The society is actively seeking donations and grants to increase our range of lighting and sound equipment helping to reduce production costs. This will aid the society in supporting other groups in the community.

# From the Registers

## Holy Baptism

27th October	Ben James Foster
17th November	Jayden Lewis Forster-Conlon
24th November	Joseph George Wilson

## Christian Burial and Cremation

31st October	John Leckonby Kathleen Harrison
7th November	Alistair Hutton <i>(Taken at Nunthorpe Church)</i>
25th November	Henry Matthews

## Val and Jane Retire as Marwood Librarians

In 1994 Val Harmar and Jane Simmons took on the job of Librarians at Marwood School, going in each week to help all the children choose a new library book. They have thoroughly enjoyed the job and meeting all the new generations of children at the school.



Now has come the time to retire so they can see more of their own young families.

At the Harvest Service in Church, Mrs Wilson, the Headteacher, made a presentation thanking them both for all they had done over so many years.

<b>Parish website</b>	<a href="http://www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk">www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk</a>
<b>Church Office e-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:greatayton.pariishoffice@virgin.net">greatayton.pariishoffice@virgin.net</a>
<b>Diocese of York</b>	<a href="http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk">www.dioceseofyork.org.uk</a>
<b>Stokesley Deanery</b>	<a href="http://www.stokesleydeanery.org.uk">www.stokesleydeanery.org.uk</a>
<b>A Church Near You</b>	<a href="http://www.acny.org.uk">www.acny.org.uk</a>

## Trouble at the Inn



The season of school nativity plays is approaching and no doubt many a teacher will be looking to the hidden pitfalls ahead with some apprehension.

Unscripted plays, where the young actors are allowed to provide their own dialogue are particularly vulnerable. In one case, when Joseph and Mary arrived at the inn, the following conversation took place:-

"Have you a room please because my wife is expecting a baby.

"Afraid not," replied the innkeeper, "and it's not my fault you wife is expecting a baby." "No, and if you read the Bible story," retorted Joseph, "it's not my fault either."

A production at a school in Suffolk ended so riotously that the "Bethlehem Brawl," as it was called, made the local papers. It happened when two four-year-old shepherds traded punches after an argument about who should stand next to the Virgin Mary.

The five-year-old innkeeper at a Wimbledon school caused consternation when, asked by Joseph if there was any room at the inn, he replied: "Yes."

And a young shepherd in another play upset the script when he emptied the crib and, after a scuffle with a rather officious Virgin Mary, climbed in himself – to loud applause.

Two small girls were overheard discussing their nativity play. "I'm a virgin in the play," said one. "That's nothing," replied the other proudly, "I'm an angel." Declared the first girl indignantly: "It's much harder being a virgin."

At a primary school in Wiltshire a member of staff had to crawl on stage to tether an errant child to the leg of a piano. The child's mother did not object; she was just astonished that he stood still for so long.

One young thoughtful boy declared, off-stage "I blame Joseph; he should have booked ahead."

Perhaps – but then, where would our nativity play be ?

**Editor of Spire**

Paul Peverell  
[revpev@btinternet.com](mailto:revpev@btinternet.com)

# The Parishes of Great Ayton with Easby and Newton under Roseberry

## Services

### Christ Church, Great Ayton

<b>Sunday</b>	8.00am Holy Communion 9.15am Parish Communion with Sunday School 11.00am Come & Praise (2nd Sunday of month) Evening Worship - as announced in the Diary
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.30am Little Fishes Carer & Toddler Group
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.00am Holy Communion - in Christ Church

### At St Oswald's, Newton under Roseberry

**Sunday** 11.00am Services on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month only  
1<sup>st</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion; 3<sup>rd</sup> All Age Worship

For enquiries about Baptisms, Banns and Marriages, please come to  
Christ Church Vestry on **Fridays** from 6pm - 7pm



Vicar	Rev'd Paul Peverell Rev'd Geoff Jaques Rev'd Jon Dean	The Vicarage, Low Green 132 Roseberry Crescent White House, Dikes Lane	722333 722979 722649
Readers	Mrs Margaret Lewis Mr Peter Titchmarsh	97 Wheatlands 3 Greenacre Close	722628 724153
Churchwardens	Mrs Rosemary Wheway Mr Eric Boyce	Southbrook, Dikes Lane 74 Marwood Drive	722451 722552
Organist	Mr Craig Cartwright		07554422779
PCC Secretary	Mrs Julie Bourke	12 Yarm Lane	724508
PCC Treasurer	Mr Ken Taylor	The Recess, Newton Rd.	722400
Electoral Roll	Mrs Alison Lambert	54 Roseberry Crescent	722565
Child Protection	Mrs Gail Luckett	69a High Street	723504
Gift Aid Sec.	Mrs Sheila Levett	34 Wainstones Close	723034

### Church Hall Office

For **Church Hall bookings**, please contact the Church Office **Tel 722665** on **Monday or Friday 9 am - 12 noon, and Thursdays 10 - 12 noon or leave a message.**

Email. [greatayton.parishoffice@virgin.net](mailto:greatayton.parishoffice@virgin.net)

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