

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

Spire

DECEMBER 2014 & JANUARY 2015

Peter Pan jr.

By the

Bradley School of Dance
with Rev Pev as Captain Hook

Tues 9th, Wed 10th, Fri 12th at 7pm
Sat & Sun at 1.30pm



in Christ Church Hall



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.

www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk

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60p

DECEMBER & JANUARY

- 1 Mon Hollygarth Carol Service at 2pm**
- 3 Wed Mothers' Union Advent Carol Service at 2pm**
- 6 Sat Who Let the Dads Out 10am - 12 noon**
- 7 Sun Advent 2** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; **11am Holy Communion at St Oswald's.** 12.15pm Holy Baptism; 4pm Masonic Carol Service
- 9 Tues Peter Pan begins in Church Hall**
- 14 Sun Advent 3** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion: 11am Come & Praise
- 21 Sun Advent 4** (Foodbank Sunday) 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion **11am All Age Christmas Service at St Oswald's.** 6pm Christmas Carol Service
- 22 Mon Wedding at St Oswald's at 4pm**
- 28 Sun Christmas 1** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion.

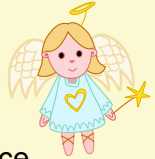
HAPPY NEW YEAR - January 2015

- 3 Sat Who Let the Dads Out 10am - 12 noon**
- 4 Sun Christmas 2** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; **11am Holy Communion at St Oswald's.** 12.15pm Holy Baptism.
- 9 Fri Church Visitors Meeting at 1.45pm in Upper Room**
- 11 Sun Epiphany 1** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion: 11am Come & Praise
- 18 Sun Epiphany 2** (Foodbank Sunday) 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion **11am All Age Service; 12 noon Holy Baptism**
- 19 Mon PCC Dinner**
- 25 Sun Conversion of St Paul** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion; 4pm Churches Unity Service at Methodist Church

Regular activities on back page

Items in Magenta all take place at St Oswald's Church at Newton,

Christmas Services 2014



Monday 1st December

2.00pm Hollygarth Carol Service **

Wednesday 3rd December

2.00pm Mothers' Union Deanery Advent Carol Service

Sunday 7th December

4.00pm Freemasons Carol Service**

Tuesday 16th December

7.30pm *All Saints Carol Service***

Thursday 18th December

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

Friday 19th December

10.30am Marwood & Roseberry Schools' Carol Service**

Sunday 21st December (*Morning Services as normal*)

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

6.00pm Christ Church Christmas Carol Service**

Monday 22nd December

7.30pm *Christmas Carols on High Green*

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

Friday 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

Do You Believe in Fairies?



This Christmas in the panto in the Church Hall I become a baddy for the first time playing the part of Captain Hook, nemesis to Peter Pan and food for the crocodile. In the story Tinkerbell takes the bomb intended for Peter, and is only brought back to life by everyone shouting “I believe in Fairies!”

Most Congregations will not find such a belief difficult, as many Church pews are often filled with people who believe in Fairies. The Fairies clean the Church, arrange the flowers, run Sunday school, join the PCC and above all, contribute regularly to the maintenance and mission of the Church by what they put in the collection each week. At least I assume people who just come and don't get involved must have that belief and not just be leaving everything to the people sitting around them.

This view can also be found in some Churches in our Deanery who have opted for “special reasons” to pay less to the Diocese this year, so Stokesley Deanery now has a £60,000 shortfall for next year. So who will be making up the difference? Surely we are not expecting to be subsidised by Middlesbrough Churches, where 15 of the 19 Parishes are in the poorest 10% of the country? It must be the Fairies.

Truth is, there are no such things as fairies. Honest! Its real people like you and me, who roll their sleeves up and get involved, and do all those little jobs that makes a Church like ours run so smoothly. Its people who generously give every week in a planned way, so that whether they make it or not, they know the Church is still able to give a welcome to those who are genuine newcomers or in need.

Both here at Christ Church and at Saint Oswald's, Newton under Roseberry, I am pleased to report a very weak faith in fairies. Instead we have many people willing to get involved and respond to the many challenges that come our way. Elsewhere in this Magazine you will read of the wonderful response to our Giving in Grace initiative that has

enabled us to both ensure the future of our Church here, whilst at the same time supporting the Diocese in providing for poorer parishes to have a vicar. You will also see reports of the wonderful response to Love in a Box, that happened because Peter and Sylvia Robinson chose to get involved and run the depot at Preston's of Potto. In our collection at Christ Church, 310 boxes came in.

You will also see of the initiative started by Adrian Thorogood and Jenny Earle to collect winter clothes for displaced Iraqis, who had to leave all behind when they fled the forces of IS, and now the cold winter approaches. The back of Christ Church has been emptied several times over.

Both the above collections also happened on our regular Foodbank Sunday, where two car loads of food for folk struggling to make ends meet just a few miles away, also came in.

You can also read of the Mission Giving from our PCC that supports and encourages many good causes, and our Annual Christmas Appeal which this year is for Roseberry School in Darjeeling in India, supporting Helen Jones and the terrific work she has started there in giving some poor children a life changing education.

All this points to a very weak belief in fairies. Instead people are copying the Christmas story of Incarnation, of God who cares so much for us that he personally got involved in our lot. It is when we also get involved in such ways (and I know I will have missed some out, so forgive me) that we too can make a difference for good.

Whatever Tinkerbell may think, I am glad that so many people here don't leave things to fairies and do it themselves. It is this way of behaving that makes being Vicar of both Great Ayton and Newton under Roseberry such a continuing joy and privilege that never dulls with the years.

May God bless you all this Christmas, and thank you for all that you do to help make a difference.

Paul

Giving in Grace - A Thank You

At the beginning of this year it became apparent that we would need to address the funding of our Church, something that we had not done in any major way since 2006. I was asked to take the programme forward and, with Paul's leadership and the PCC's support, we first looked at the fundamental question – why? Few organisations can stand still; they either grow or wither away and we are no different. In order to thrive we identified three key objectives:

1. To grow in numbers and in faith, through prayer teaching and action
2. To make a difference both within our community and further afield
3. To communicate more effectively who we are and what we do – and also to listen

As a starting point we recognised all that we do as a Church and the fortunate position we are in. We have a responsibility to share those blessings, not least financially. Here again we have three priorities:

1. To sustain our Church here in Great Ayton
2. To support the wider Anglican community
3. To offer assistance in service and financially, to others that need our help

We are challenged to be generous, reflecting God's grace to us. We developed a plan incorporating prayer, preaching and communication. We created brochures, wrote letters, followed up. We tried to treat everyone as an individual in the way that we handled the correspondence. We hope we got it mostly right.

The good news is that you, the members of the church, responded. Thank you.

It was important to us that we got replies to the initial letter and, with some follow up, over 60% did answer. Financially we had set a target of an extra £2,100 per month planned giving. We have been pledged £1,800, 85%. This means that, in terms of our financial priorities above we can meet the commitments made in the first and second, and do a great deal to move forward on the third.

On behalf of Paul, the PCC and the Christ Church congregation, thank you to all who considered the request, to those who support our Church in any way and particular thanks to those who were able to increase their giving at this time. Giving in Grace indeed.

John Dickinson

.....and a footnote from the Treasurer

One of the pleasing aspects of the campaign was the number of new recruits to our planned giving schemes and the increased number who have been able to gift aid their donations. If you need any help processing the necessary forms, please contact:-

Sheila Levett (gift aid), Jean Goat (freewill offering envelopes) or myself.



And to those who pledged to increase their giving by standing order, please don't forget to instruct your bank accordingly – that way a pledge becomes a reality!

Many thanks from me too; balancing the books next year just became a little easier!!

Ken Taylor

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 722 013 or Marina Charlton 01642 723 087. The suggested amount is £25 and a small laminated card will be placed by the arrangement recalling the memory in which it is given.



Charitable Giving 2014

At the November Meeting of the Great Ayton PCC, we distributed our Mission Giving for the year. If we expect people to give to us, then we must in turn be generous to others. This is how it went.

Overseas Charities - We gave £800 each to the Anglican Mission Charities CMS and US (Formerly USPG, who support the Anglican Church overseas.) Also we gave £900 to Bethany School in Palestine that Rosemary Wheway had visited earlier in the year and discovered that the teachers hadn't been paid for 3 months as funds were so low.)

Home Mission Once again we supported the Stokesley School Christian Youthworker Project with a £2,000 donation. We know Neil well and the good job he does. We also supported The Children's Society and the Church Army with donations of £750 each. To help the work with the poor on our own doorstep we sent £1,000 each to Together Middlesbrough and Stockton Parish Church for their work with Asylum Seekers.

Newton Church In addition to these amounts, Saint Oswald's Church also send £125 each to the Church Army, The Children's Society, US and CMS, also sending £258.62 to Together Middlesbrough from their Harvest Collections.

Our Christmas Appeal will be for Roseberry School in India, as featured in September Spire. We hope Helen Jones, the founder, will speak at several of the services. Special collections will be taken at all our Carol Services and the Crib Service on Christmas Eve.

Next time you hear someone say "The Church is always asking for money" you can now reply in good Panto style "Oh no they don't!" And tell them that Churches give money away too.



For a Flavour of our Carol Services, click on the picture if you are joined to the Internet. (Best not tried with the paper version!)

Mothers' Union News



Jennifer Finel, Deanery President, came and brought all her cards, calendars and diaries etc for sale. She also told us about Mary Sumner House and all the different departments and shared the literature with us regarding the projects which are supported by the Mothers' Union.

Thank you for all the donations received for the Women's Refuge and Seafarers.

The next meeting is 3rd December when the Denary Advent/Carol Service will be held here in Church at 2pm. Members to bring mince pies as usual please.

On the 7th January a service for closing the branch will be held in Church at 2pm, followed by a pooled tea. All past and present members are welcome to attend.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The Bridge Drive held in October went very well and a total of £470.50 was raised. The recent Quiz in The Royal Oak was an enjoyable event, with searching questions set by Mike Myers and we thank him & his assistants for the evening, at which £400 was made. During the year Pauline Titchmarsh's cards have raised a total of £405 - we thank her for the hard work she puts in to produce such quality cards at such a good price!



Looking to the future: We shall be Carol Singing outside the shops on Monday, 22 December, between 10.30-11.30 am - we welcome anyone who would like to join us. On 11 February we shall be holding our annual box opening coffee morning, so please make a note in your diary.

We wish all our supporters a Happy Christmas and we also hope that the New Year brings peace to many parts of the world.

Jancie Brown

Love in a



We enjoyed another very successful year with our Love in a Box Appeal.

310 boxes came in, making Christ Church a most colourful place to be on Sunday 16th November.

Our thanks to all who supported this years appeal.

Marwood C of E Infant School, Ingleby Greenhow C of E Primary School, Kirkby & Great Broughton C of E Primary School, Roseberry Academy, St Martin's Church Kirklevington, St Margaret's Church Brookfield & Great Ayton Churches.

Our special Thanks to Sylvia and Peter Robinson who took on the organisation of the depot at Preston of Potto, without which the appeal



couldn't have happened. Also to all who supported them in helping sort thousands of boxes from all over the country. And how would we manage without John and Ynez Clarke filling their camper van right to the roof with all these boxes.

Box 2014

The Appeal also gave me chance to visit all the schools taking part to do a Love in a Box Assembly, and I am pleased to say that the magic trick worked every time!

Christmas is about Giving to others, and yet so often all we do is exchange gifts with people who already have enough. The Love in a Box Appeal is true giving, for the children in Romania who receive them can give us nothing back in return - save the joy they have in receiving the gifts, which helps us know the true joy of giving.

Thank you to all who took part.



Amazing Ministry in Stockton Parish Church

An evening to remember at The Royal Oak with Rev'd Alan Farish and friends! Alan shared how he felt called by God to take on the challenge of a dying church 7 years ago and how blessed he felt that an exciting ministry had blossomed over the past two & a half years. Earlier that evening he had been with 50 Iranian



Christians holding their service in Farsi! He brought two of the men with him who told of their own journeys of faith and their struggle to gain asylum here. There are currently people of 11 different nationalities in the church, several who speak no English, they are "soaked in the love of Christ through our church community", said Alan. Our evening closed with the presentation of a cheque from PCC funds approved the previous evening.

Coffee and Scone Makers Needed

Could you and a couple of friends make the coffee and organise some scone makers for our **Annual Coffee Morning** on Saturday March 14th in the Parochial Hall?

It is a great social gathering and one of the few occasions when we raise money for ourselves but it wouldn't work without a drink and a scone!

Please contact Rosemary Wheway (01642 722 451) if you can help.

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 31st January 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.



Winter Clothes for Iraq



Adrian Thorogood and Jenny Earle have been overwhelmed by the donations of winter clothing for the displaced people of Iraq. Over 150 banana boxes of clothing has been collected, delivered, sorted, packed and will be sent down to Brighton on Thursday 27 November to be a part of a much larger consignment of clothing being organised by Samara Levy – a housewife who just couldn't stand by and watch the disaster that is unfolding in Iraq.

Clothing donations have been received from a wide range of organisations, including local churches, schools, Scout & Guide groups, the village cricket club and local businesses.

Many thanks to everyone!

Adrian & Jenny

YORKSHIRE CANCER RESEARCH

Great Ayton & District Committee

Our thanks to all the ladies (and gents) who help with the annual Yorkshire Cancer Lunch. Once again a packed Church Hall enjoyed a lovely meal with the most fantastic choice of puddings afterwards. Its the only time of year you are expected to have seconds - at least!



The meal raised an amazing £2,700.



Margaret Stevens welcomed us all to the event on behalf of the Committee, and announced that in year end April 2014 they had raised an incredible £22,500 from various social functions, some sponsored events and wedding and funeral collections.

Those present then heard from Dr Linda Ko-Feriggnio as to how the funds were handed out and what criteria they used. Sally Crerar, Head of Fundraising from the Harrogate Office then spoke what was in everyone's mind when she thanked the ladies of the Great Ayton Committee for the hard work and dedication they put in to achieve such a marvellous result



A Happy New Year to all our supporters.

REMEMBRANCE

We had a very special time of Remembrance this year, as on 5th November we gathered to pay tribute to Major Clive Dixon, killed in action 100 years ago to the day. (See November Spire for details) Family and friends gathered, together with members of his former Regiment, the 16th Lancers. Following a short Act of Remembrance we went to the Royal Oak for refreshments and an interesting illustrated presentation on Major Dixon's life taken by Ian Pearce.



Here are some of the volunteers who turned out to sweep the Churchyard and gather all the leaves up on the Saturday before Remembrance Sunday (You will have already read that we don't have fairies!) Lots of work goes on to make Christ Church welcoming for all who come to the Remembrance Day Service.

We had close on 400 people in Church for the service, so the numbers outside were even greater. Sad to notice that following Laurie Cowley's death earlier in the year, there was no wreath laid by the Royal British Legion.



Pilgrim has been launched by the Church of England this year.

Each of the six sessions in the second book, explores a section of the Lord's Prayer.

A group of us met so that we could think about, and ponder, our Christian faith, together.

Each evening started with prayer and included a reflection on a Bible passage and what it meant for each one of us.

Video and audio gave us food for thought and discussion.

And of course we finished up with refreshments and a chat!

We hope to have a further six sessions of Pilgrim in the New Year.

Pilgrim 3 will investigate the Ten Commandments.

Would you like to join us?

A New Face in January

My name is Geoff Hill, and I'm 60 years young, and in my final year of Reader Ministry training. My home church is St Nicholas, Guisborough, where I have been a PCC member and Treasurer for 10 years. I have been married to Susan for 39 years (who is also in her final year of Reader Ministry training). We were both born in Middlesbrough, moving to Skelton when we got married, and have lived in Guisborough for 34 years (so we're still newcomers!!).



We have two children and 3 grandchildren, the eldest aged six (going on 16!!!). I retired in 2010, after 38 years of working for Teesside County Borough, Langbaurgh Borough, and Redcar and Cleveland Borough Councils. My interests include walking, cycling and (subject to injuries) jogging and football, having completed a number of half-marathons.

I am grateful for the opportunity to join your parish for the placement part of my Reader Ministry training, and look forward to involving myself in the life of your church.



Angrove Singers

Christmas Concert



Saturday 6th December 2014

7.30pm

Great Ayton Methodist Church

High Street, Great Ayton

Conductor: Jeremy Harbottle

Accompanist: Jenny Hesford



Tickets: £8 (adult) £3 (child)
from choir members or telephone
01642 722 897 or 01642 722 192

Proceeds to Charity

Guisborough Choral Christmas Celebration

Traditional and modern carols including Vaughan Williams' beautiful *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*, and rousing selections from Handel's *Messiah*. Along with the biblical readings, and local favourites the Guisborough Salvation Army Band under bandmaster David White, this promises to be a wonderfully varied and enjoyable evening.

The concert is on **Saturday 13th December at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church, Westgate, Guisborough**. Tickets priced £10, £8 concessions, £1 under-19s, from Guisborough Bookshop, Greensleeves Music (both in Chaloner St, Guisborough), wegottickets.com, or on the door. Don't miss out, as demand is always high for the choir's Christmas Celebration!

From the Registers

Holy Baptism

26 th October	Lacey Louise Bulman
16 th November	Mason William Bowes
16 th November	Annie Jayne Nunn
23 rd November	Joshua Jones

Christian Burial and Cremation

27 th October	Alan Wilson
	Andrew Leckonby
	Bill McCracken
3 rd November	Des Holliday
14 th November	Elsie Stelling
20 th November	Audrey Harbottle

Services in Magenta took place at St Oswald's Church, Newton

CHRISTMAS TIME

Christmas comes but once a year,
And fills our hearts with joy,
For unto Mary, long ago,
Was born a baby boy.

The snowflakes during winter,
Come down from the skies above,
The little robin redbreast,
We cherish with our love.

Our children visit Santa,
And sit upon his knee,
When he gives them a present,
Their faces beam with glee.

Let's not forget our elders,
To whom we all endear,
Offer them a welcome,
Be kind and sincere.

Our New Year's Resolutions,
Require one to endeavour,
To take pride and do ones best,
Old friendships not to sever.

Malcolm Goat

Parish website	www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk
Church Office e-mail	greatayton.pariishoffice@virgin.net
Diocese of York	www.dioceseofyork.org.uk
Stokesley Deanery	www.stokesleydeanery.org.uk
A Church Near You	www.acny.org.uk

Senior Driver

My neighbour was working in his yard when he was startled by a late model car that came crashing through his hedge and ended up in his front lawn.

He rushed to help an elderly lady driver out of the car and sat her down on a lawn chair.

He said with excitement, "you appear quite elderly to be driving."

"Well, yes, I am," she replied proudly. "I'll be 97 next month, and I am now old enough that I don't even need a driver's license anymore.

"The last time I went to my doctor, he examined me and asked if I had a driver's license. I told him yes and handed it to him. He took scissors out of the drawer, cut the license into pieces, and threw them in the waste basket, saying,

'You won't need this anymore,' so I thanked him and left!"

Despite his parents' reassurances, Bill couldn't shake the nagging suspicion he might be adopted.



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Editor of Spire

Paul Peverell revpev@btinternet.com
To have a paper copy delivered, contact
Jean Goat 01642 723274

The Parishes of Great Ayton with Easby and Newton under Roseberry

Services

Christ Church, Great Ayton

Sunday	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
Tuesday	9.30am	Little Fishes Carer & Toddler Group
Wednesday	10.00am	Holy Communion - in Christ Church

At St Oswald's, Newton under Roseberry

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

Baptisms, Banns and Weddings can be arranged in person at Christ Church Vestry on **Fridays from 6pm - 7pm** where the clergy are present. Or make an initial contact by emailing the Vicar, Paul Peverell at revpev@btinternet.com



Vicar	Rev'd Paul Peverell	The Vicarage	01642 722333
	Rev'd Geoff Jaques		01642 722979
	Rev'd Jon Dean		01642 722649
Readers	Mrs Margaret Lewis		01642 722628
	Mr Peter Titchmarsh		01642 724153
Churchwardens	Dr Vicki Nath		01642 722501
	Dr Martin Simmons		01642 723148
Organist	Dr Craig Cartwright		07554 422779
PCC Secretary	Mrs Julie Bourke		01642 724508
PCC Treasurer	Mr Ken Taylor		01642 722400
Child Protection	Mrs Gail Jukes		01642 723504
Gift Aid Sec.	Mrs Sheila Levett		01642 723034

Church Hall Office

For **Church Hall bookings**, please contact the Church Office **Tel 01642 722 665** on **Monday, Thursday or Friday 9 am - 12 noon, or leave a message.**

Email. gapo1876@outlook.com (For services or pastoral matters, please contact the vicar as this phone isn't manned every day)