



St. Hugh's Church, Gosforth

2nd April 2023

From the Vicar

Dear All,

Every Easter, particular aspects of Holy Week and the entire Easter Story can speak to us in a powerful way. This year, whilst preparing for Easter, one feature of the story has markedly stood out for me — when Mary Magdalene visits the tomb of Jesus early on the first day of the week “While it was still dark” and weeping, unaware that God had already acted.

The friends of Jesus were not in a good place. As with all sudden bereavements, there must have been disbelief, numbness and horror among the disciples. In addition, perhaps waves of fear swept over them, leaving them breathless. There may have been that sense of feeling lost, the inability to think straight and the mechanical undertaking of totally unnecessary tasks. Perhaps the following day, the Sabbath, helped them to face the defeat of the cross, and in their bereavement to support each other safely behind locked doors.

The resurrection was a complete surprise. The early writers were unable to make sense of it, they could not even agree on the sequence of happenings. The event shook them so much that it was felt there was no need to ensure the details were straight. They were amazed that God acted when everything seemed so desperate.

For me personally, the reality that God was working whilst it was still dark, with Mary weeping, is a comfort. Surely this means that we can act in hope despite doubts which at times overwhelm us; we can go on as if things are going to get better even if we are not completely convinced that they are, or not knowing when they will be. We can re-orientate ourselves and help point others towards the light at the end of a long tunnel,

even when we are struggling to put one foot in front of the other. That is real hope, which the death and resurrection of Jesus speaks of, and it is the very same hope which we celebrate on Easter Day.

Wishing you a joyful Easter.

Andrew Shipton



Exploring Forest School at Archbishop Runcie First School — see page 9

Restoring the Calvary Cross

On 26th March (Passion Sunday) we were delighted to welcome the Bishop of Berwick, Mark Wroe, and a variety of guests from the local community and beyond, to a service to celebrate the rededication of the Calvary Cross. This was an opportunity to say “thank you” to all who have given so generously to this project, including the Community Foundation, North of Tyne officials, and many private individuals. Our appeal included funding to enhance security for the Cross and environmental improvements to the surrounding green spaces.

See pages 2 and 3 for the highlights of the day and the history of this beautiful sculpture.

Restoring the Calvary Cross



On the 13th May 2021, on her way to morning prayer, our then curate, Beverley Davies, discovered the broken remains of the Calvary Cross in the Garden of Remembrance with the bronze statue missing. It is thought the theft occurred in the small hours, when some neighbours heard some noise at about 4am, but did not investigate. Northumbria Police were informed and after raising with them the significance of the sculpture, a publicity campaign began, involving articles in the press and messages in social media. Even a reward was offered. Andrew Shipton was interviewed by ITV News and by BBC Radio Newcastle.

We all assumed that the statue would have been immediately turned into ingots, but the police understood, from their enquiries, that bronze is not easy to melt down and the nearest suitable equipment to do so was in Leeds. Realising the statue was probably still a statue and probably still local, they redoubled their appeals for information and the following Sunday afternoon received a tip-off to search a scrapyard in Walker. There the sculpture was found hidden, though in pieces. On one afternoon, for 37 minutes, the theft and its return were the top UK News on the BBC News Website. The story was picked up by news networks all over the world, and we received messages from Australia, Canada and Nigeria as well as all over the UK, including of course Gosforth!

Although the thieves have not been identified, charges were brought for the receiving of stolen goods, and a trial is expected later this year.

It is fair to say, that until its theft, we did not realise the significance of the sculpture, and

had rather taken it for granted. All Saints' has a long tradition of providing the best for our church building. You only have to look at the stunning quality of the woodwork of the rood screen, pews and panelling, and the organ, or hear the bells, as examples. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that when the Garden of Remembrance was being installed in the 1960s, the church commissioned a sculpture from Frank Roper, one of the foremost British sculptors of his time.

There is even some theology particular to the sculpture that Father Mike Hills pointed out to us. Since medieval times depictions of Christ on the cross generally show him with his eyes closed. On a Calvary Cross, certainly our Calvary Cross, Christ is shown with his eyes open, and this is to show the bereaved



that Christ sees their pain, feels it and understands it.

With the sculpture safely returned and locked in the store below the high altar, arrangements started for the repair. It was clear that an accredited conservator would be needed to carry out the repairs and Graciela Ainsworth in Edinburgh was approached for a quotation. Meanwhile, we held a meeting with the police crime prevention adviser. She advised that we needed to improve the security lighting and to install CCTV. Aware of the intense interest there had been on the police Facebook page about the theft, she also recommended we explore crowdfunding to meet the costs of this work.

The repair to the Calvary Cross itself was covered by our church insurance. The loss adjuster, however, took some convincing that an accredited conservator was needed, and some months of negotiations passed before approval was given to the appointment of Graciela and the process of petitioning the Chancellor of the Diocese for a Faculty could begin.

With the repairs to the Cross itself settled, we looked at what work could be packaged together for crowdfunding. It was agreed that we would replace the existing sodium security lighting on the Church Centre with new LED fittings that would give more light and cost dramatically less to run. Also agreed was new up-lighting to the Cross, new CCTV and upgrading the existing concrete paving slabs on the plinth with new stone paving. With the emphasis on making the Garden of Remembrance and the whole church grounds more community-friendly, we also added in the provision of field drainage to the church green. We are very lucky to have the church green, which was originally intended to be the site of a vicarage that was never built. It always has been a community resource, but its use has been limited by poor drainage and a tendency to become waterlogged in wet weather.

The crowdfunding appeal was launched with the help of Space Hive, and proved successful. We are extremely grateful to the many contributors, both large and small, from the community and the parish, to the Community Foundation who gave money for the land drainage, and to the North of Tyne Authority who gave a substantial grant.

The drainage to the green has yet to be carried out. It was planned for mid-March but the ground does need to be reasonably dry to do the work and unfortunately, in March, it

seems to have rained every day!

The Calvary Cross really is a good news story. We started with the upset and the outrage caused by the theft of the sculpture, felt not just in our parish but in the wider community. But this then led to a better understanding and appreciation of our Garden of Remembrance. We had the positives of the police recovery of the stolen statue, the community involvement in the fundraising, and then the reinstatement of the Calvary Cross with the CCTV and the new lighting. Now, at night, Jesus on the Cross is lit up and provides a focus for anyone passing. The Garden of Remembrance can continue to be the oasis of healing for the bereaved and an area for quiet reflection and prayer to all.

Peter Brown



Greening the Green

Alongside the Calvary Cross restoration, our recent appeal included funding a project to drain the Church Green. This has been a problem for many years, as it quickly becomes waterlogged and unusable in wet weather. We were hoping that work would start in mid-March; however, unfortunately the green needs to dry out first (it started raining as soon as we set a tentative date!) so that the project has had to be delayed.

Work will include digging trenches in a herringbone pattern across the green, laying drainage pipes, refilling and reseeding the affected areas.

Included in the plans is a more accessible slope onto the green from the South side.

All Saints' Challenge Cup



The All Saints' Challenge Cup was first awarded in October 2022 to the Scouts. This year it will be awarded on 29th October (All Saints' day) at our 9:30 service.

The cup is open to all of the All Saints' uniformed groups and the youth club. It challenges the groups to demonstrate that "they care" — which was the theme of Mothering Sunday. They are asked to show they care either for people living in the All Saints' parish or for the environment, also in the parish.

On All Saints' Sunday, organisations will be asked to give a short presentation on what they did to demonstrate "they care" and everyone in the congregation will be asked to vote on who should win.

Felicity Shoesmith

Flowers for John Ward

Lesley Ogilvie has sent us this delightful picture of the flowers from John Ward's memorial service in front of the High Altar.



Foodbank donations

Thank you for all the donations so far. Please keep them coming, but do remember the foodbank can only accept items which are in date and unopened. The record so far for most out of date donation goes to a jar of chutney which went out of date in 2014!

The picture shows the last boot load of donations which were very gratefully received by the volunteers at the West End foodbank, who are continuing to see unprecedented demand from people across Newcastle who are struggling. Donations can be left at the back of church. Thank you.

Hannah Marshall



Marion Anderson, City Guide



Volunteers have guided visitors to the region for 60 years, and in February 2023 our very own Marion Anderson was given a Lord Mayor of Newcastle's award for her 50 years of service as a volunteer Newcastle City Guide. We know of Marion's immense interest in and knowledge of history from which we have also benefitted on countless occasions. Well done, Marion, you have made us all very proud!

Ros Place

Sew, Knit and Natter get back to basics!

It is said that laughing out loud is good for you but that not many people are doing it right now (there's a surprise!). Well, the ladies of Sew, Knit and Natter disproved that the other week when one of our intrepid knitters, Katy Hodgson, brought along a pair of...wait for it...knickers that she knitted many years ago from a pattern belonging to her mother.

Here is a photo of Katy proudly holding up the said garment:



We all agreed that although it was a nifty piece of work none of us were very keen on knitting our own, as they might be a bit, well, itchy for modern skins, so don't expect to see any of us sitting scratching in the pews quite yet.

And finally, here is the pattern, printed in 1940 and at a cost of 3d. You might be surprised



to learn that what Katy knitted was actually described as "panties", and the larger ones as "knickers" — maybe we should be wearing the longer version when the weather is cold? Mother always knew best.

As well as knitting their individual projects such as hats, scarves, gloves and other woolly items both for themselves and for the Craft Stall at the annual Christmas Fair, the ladies also create Teddies which are given to the children who come to All Saints' for baptism. Each teddy has a label on its back saying that it is a gift from All Saints', a cherished reminder of one baby's special day.



Ann Shaw

The above piece was written before we heard the very sad news that Ann Shaw, one of the founders of Sew, Knit and Natter and a stalwart member over the years, had died. We will all miss Ann very much, and understand that a fuller celebration of her life and her work in the church will be published in a forthcoming edition of Keeping in Touch.

Our thoughts go with her family at this time.

Sew Knit and Natter members



Our photo shows Ann (Right) at the first Sew Knit and Natter meeting with (L-R) Margaret and Sue.

Mrs Enid Green



Mrs Enid Green receiving Mother's Day flowers from All Saints'.

Enid celebrated her 100th birthday on 8th February. Our love and best wishes for many happy returns.

Andrew Shipton

All Saints' has Talent!

On the Bank Holiday Monday (8th May) following the Coronation we are being asked to think about the "Big Help Out", a time when we get together to help out our own community, including finding out about the fantastic ways we can get involved by joining in, lending a hand and making a change.

At All Saints' we will be running a series of workshops, led by people who use the Centre or by members of the congregation. It will be an opportunity to come along, maybe try something new, or find out more about the wide range of activities that take place, catch up with friends or meet new people and have a hot drink and cake.

If you would like to share a talent, bake a cake or make sure that you are at the front of the queue for a particular workshop, please get in touch with me:

felicity.shoesmith@icloud.com

or Lesley Ogilvie:

ladythornehouse@icloud.com or come along on the day — the event will take place from 2pm.

Felicity Shoesmith



Tyneside Welcomes Gosforth branch are very excited that after many months of fundraising, team building and form filling we have now been approved and allocated a family by the Home Office.

We will be welcoming a Syrian family including two children in the next couple of months.

Fundraising efforts continue, Ella Marshall recently held a bake sale and raised over £300.

Well done Ella—they look very tasty!



Building the Village: Supporting Parents at All Saints'

As part of our commitment at All Saints' to welcome and support people at all stages of life, one of the groups we are focusing on in particular over the coming months is parents with children at home.

Over the past few months, we have been working on developing forms of worship that we hope will connect with families where they are at. Our monthly 4pm service, **Faith@4**, offers a more informal act of worship in the Centre, with crafts and refreshments. We have also just (re-)launched our monthly **All Together** service: a service of Holy Communion at the usual time of 9:30 on Sunday, that aims to be more interactive and bring together people of all ages.

But supporting children and their parents goes beyond Sunday morning. For one thing, getting to church can be difficult for lots of reasons, from busy schedules to toddler tantrums about putting on shoes. More importantly, the Christian faith is not just about coming to church for an hour on Sunday, but is about how we live the whole of our lives.

Which is why we're looking for ways to support parents all through the week. By creating opportunities for parents to connect with one another. By offering space to reflect and learn together about what is working well and what we might like to try differently. And by pointing to resources that might be helpful — particularly to help children develop their innate spirituality and form a connection with God that will give them security and purpose throughout their life.

As a parent myself, I have benefited so much from having a church community around me. Whether it's the church friends we had picnics with in the park, the "mums of tots" group where I could swap stories about endless laundry piles and sleepless nights, the Sunday school teachers who taught my children so much about prayer, or the youth workers who introduced us to new music and fun ways to learn about God together, I'm so grateful for the people who have supported us as a family over the years.

They say that it takes a village to raise a child. We hope some of these new initiatives at All Saints' will help build that village, where parents can find support, encouragement and a sense of community as they raise their children.

Date for the diary: Parents Connect

Was your child baptized at All Saints' in the last two years? Come along to our Parents Connect evening on 13 May! A chance to connect with other parents of little ones, share stories and encourage one another while enjoying some light refreshments.

When: Saturday 13 May, 7:30-9:30.

Where: All Saints' Centre, Upper Room.

Coming Soon: Parenting Children Course

Raising children is an incredible privilege, and we all want to do it well. This course is for parents who are expecting a child or have a child aged 0-10 and who want to invest in their family by taking time to reflect on their parenting.

In five sessions we'll look at building strong foundations for healthy family life, meeting our children's needs, setting boundaries, teaching healthy relationships, and preparing our children for independence. Each session will begin with a light meal, followed by video input from families and experts, and time for discussion in small groups. You can expect a warm welcome and fun atmosphere as we share the joys and challenges of parenthood together.

The Parenting Children Course is based on Christian principles but designed for all parents with or without a church background. Details to be announced; please contact Miriam Jones at miriam.jones@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk or 07474095190 if you're interested in taking part or in volunteering to help run the course.

Our family's favourites

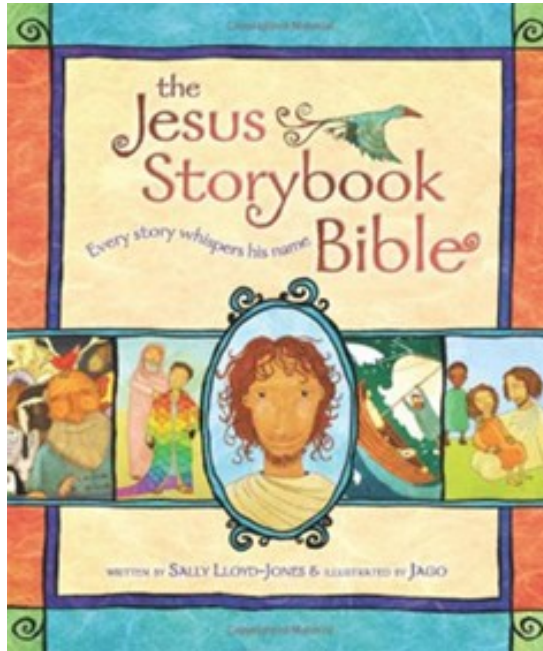
Looking for ways to help your children engage with the Bible? Here are some of the things my children are enjoying right now:

Julia (8) recommends **XTB** (eXplore The Bible) Bible reading notes. These are designed for children aged 7-10 and have been a big hit at our house. Each page has a reference to a passage from the Bible,



activities to help children chew the passage over, and suggestions for things to think or pray about. Designed to be used with the Good News Bible.

Zoë (6) is loving the *Jesus Storybook Bible* by Sally Lloyd-Jones, with illustrations by Jago. Its beautiful language and illustrations have won it multiple awards and made it an international best-seller. Our girls have read it cover to cover several times!



By the same author-illustrator duo, *Near* is a re-imagining of Psalm 139 in contemporary imagery and has become an instant hit with Adam (2) for its beautiful illustrations. I love reading him this reminder that God is with him wherever he goes.



Miriam Jones

Wake up and Shake up!

All Together at All Saints' 2023

We have launched a new form of service, a format put together by members of the Youth Forum under the guidance of the clergy – with the theme ***When the Going Gets Tough*** on 12th February and ***Who Cares....*** on Mothering Sunday 19th March. Many in our congregation are keen to trial an accessible and less formal 9.30 am parish communion service occasionally, inclusive for children, young people and anyone who prefers a different style of worship and music at All Saints'.

Both services took the same form, using simpler language and contemporary songs, and including a shortened communion in the second half. Prayers and readings have been prepared by members of the Youth Forum, some led by children and young people too.

Thanks for your encouragement in this initiative, and for all the positive comments made. We are noticing how much there is for us to learn from a different style of worship. Please stay alert to noticing what seems to be successful and relevant for our younger families, their parents and other adults as well as for us all.

All Together at All Saints' will take place on the **second** Sunday in each month. On the **last** Sunday of each month there will be **Faith@4**, held in the Centre, again aimed at families.

Members of the congregation associated with these initiatives would be happy to hear from anyone willing to help, for instance by ensuring there are things for children to do in church or at our church events. This could involve listening and talking to children or young people, mentioning the Children's Corner as people arrive, tidying crayons after a session in church or in the Centre, checking we have enough children's cups for drinks — so you'd not be signing up to heavy lifting for the rest of your lives.

Please let Felicity Shoesmith, Helen Langley, Ann Cross, Lesley Atkinson or Rosamund Place know, or pass on messages to them via parents, carers or any members of All Saints'!

Rosamund Place

BOOK REVIEW

Otherlands — A World in the



Making by Thomas Halliday

This is a most intriguing book, describing chapter by chapter how the Earth would have looked over the past 600 million years or so. The reader is taken through the natural history of previous forms of life — plant and

animal — in detail, starting with some of the earliest humans around 20,000 years ago and working back to when the first multi-cellular organisms emerged and gave rise to what we could call our ancestors. You can feel the heat emanating from the bubbling lava below the ground, and feel the freezing air coming off the glaciers as they descend from the mountains, as the Earth moulds itself into the highest peaks and the deepest, darkest oceans.

At around the time I was reading this I met a friend who used to be a devout Christian, and was shocked when she told me that she had “lost her faith”. The reason she gave was that science had destroyed it for her. I felt very sad, as I couldn’t see how anyone could not believe in a spiritual force — a God, in fact — who would have breathed life into these early blobs of tissue and nurtured their development into the world and its creatures we now know.

The final chapter of the book (and it is worth sticking with the science that far, even if, like me, you left your science background at school in the 1960s) takes the form of an epilogue: the world as it is today is a result of what has gone before, and the world of the future will be the result of what we do now. All the facts and figures that we read about almost daily are presented to us — the destruction of the forests, the warming of the seas, the over-use and poor disposal of plastics — the list goes on. There is a glimmer of hope, however. Our landscapes now, and the creatures that dwell on them, are not integral parts of the world, and life will continue in some form without them. Even if we destroy all that we have, our species is

well able to adapt and change. Exactly how we do that, however, is up to us.

Member of All Saints' Eco Group

School Report: **Archbishop Runcie First School**

The children have had mud-filled fun at Forest School. We used our senses to explore the soil in our woodland area to learn all about the hidden world of wonderful, working worms.

We discovered three different types of worms in our soil: earth workers, surface dwellers and deep burrowers. We placed the worms in a tray to take a closer look, then placed them all back where we found them so they can keep recycling and making super soil for plants to grow! We also made bird feeders to hang in the trees and toasted hot cross buns on the fire.



Kathleen Francis



Tales from the Tower

Saturday 4th March was the date of the Northern District heat of the 6 Bell Striking Competition. Our tower is part of the Northern District of the Durham and Newcastle Association of Bellringers, which is split into 3 districts — Northern, Southern and Central — as it stretches from Berwick on Tweed to Hurworth on Tees.

This year, as we have returned to some semblance of normality post-Covid, we decided to enter a team. On the day there were 7 teams taking part, from Alnwick, Berwick, Embleton, Gosforth, Morpeth, Ponteland and Wylam. Some teams rang a method (a form of change ringing where the ringers commit to memory each change in a pattern to form a recognised “tune”) and others with less advanced ringers rang call changes, where each change in the position of two bells is called by a conductor. As our team included a fairly new ringer, we rang the latter.

The competition took place at Alnwick on a new installation of bells at St. Michael's Church, Alnwick. There are 10 bells but as they are very light — the tenor or largest bell being half the weight of our tenor bell at Gosforth — we rang on the back 6 bells. For many people, including all of our team, this was the first chance to ring on these bells, and they proved a joy to ring.

The competition was judged by Kris King, who co-incidentally is the D&N President and

who rings at St. Hilda's, South Shields which is in the Central District. His comments on the ringing of each of the teams was thorough, helpful to events going forward, but also kind, so as not to put the newer ringers off taking part in future competitions.

The result was: 1st Ponteland, 2nd Wylam, 3rd Alnwick, 4th Morpeth, 5th Gosforth, 6th Embleton and 7th Berwick. Our team coming 5th out of 7 was a result we were happy with as not only did we have a relative learner in the band, Bill Shepherd, who had not been in a competition previously, but Tom Smith who called the changes for us had never done so in a competition either, and did an excellent job. The first 3 bands go forward to the D&N finals later in the year.

Yvonne Cairns



The All Saints' band: Bill Shepherd, Vic Spong, Tom Smith, Sarah Jackson, John Markham, Yvonne Cairns.

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CLASSICAL MUSIC CONCERTS
SPRING-SUMMER 2023

WEDNESDAYS 7.30 PM
Admission £10 Under-18s free

Jan. 25th	MARIO CUA - (Italy) - piano 'Young Lions of the Keyboard' (Winner Liszt Competition, London 2020) 4 Ballades - Chopin; Variations Sérieuses - Mendelssohn; Sonata No. 5 - Scriabin
Feb. 15th	JOSEPH TONG - piano Sonata in E flat Hob XVI/49 - Haydn; Arabesque Op. 18 - Schumann 2 Nocturnes, Op.15/1, Op. 32/2 - Chopin; Ballade No. 3 Op. 47 - Chopin Estampes - Debussy; Fantasy D760 - Schubert
April 12th	VIV MCLEAN - piano Two Sonatas - Scarlatti; Moments Musicaux - Schubert; Lyric Pieces - Grieg Preludes & Etudes - Rachmaninoff; Chaconne - Bach/Busoni
May 17th	MATTHEW MCLACHLAN - piano 'Young Lions of the Keyboard' Sonata No.1 - Brahms, Scherzo No. 2 - Chopin, Etudes Tableaux - Rachmaninoff; 3 Movements from 'Petrushka' - Stravinsky
June 14th	GÜLSIN ONAY - (Turkey) - piano Partita No. 1 - Bach; Ballade No. 3 - Chopin, Prelude, Chorale & Fugue - César Franck; Sonatine - Saygun
June 28th	'Classical Guitar Duo' GIULIO TAMPALINI & DANIELE FABIO - (Italy) Albéniz, De Falla, Marcello & Bartok; Italian & British Folk Music
July 26th	MARK VINER - piano Haydn - Andante con variazioni, Hob. XVII:6; Fauré - 3e Impromptu, op.34 Beethoven - Sonata no.8, op.13 'Grande Sonate pathétique' Alkan - 5e Recueil de chants, op.70; Liszt - Venezia e Napoli

JS

Tel: 0191 213 0450 All Saints' Gosforth office

Generous support for the 2023 season by Mr. Alan England is gratefully acknowledged

Obituary: Ronnie Robson

Ronnie grew up in Dinnington, the youngest of 4 children — Peggy, Edna, Billy and Ronnie. His parents originated from that village, his father being a miner there.

Tragedy struck early in Ronnie's life. His father had an accident and died, and the family had to move from the mining cottage to Irton Road just off the High Street, in Gosforth. Their grandparents were not far away.

Ronnie's mother must have had to work very hard, and Ronnie appreciated this. He did his National Service with the RAF and then worked as an apprentice at Tulip Cycles. Subsequent to this he then set up his own bicycle shop: Denton Cycles.

Ronnie was a particularly skilled frame builder and could craft and construct bespoke cycles. He was an accomplished cyclist himself, regularly competing in national competitions. On one unfortunate occasion, despite being in the lead, he crashed right before the finishing line!

Ronnie had known Hazel, his wife-to-be, from the early age of 8 or 9. Hazel's brother Derek was Ronnie's best friend growing up. Ronnie was a Boy Scout with the All Saints' group, and he and Hazel chose to get married at All Saints' in 1954.

When Ronnie started Denton Cycles, Wednesday was his only day off, and so he and Hazel approached John Turnbull (the then Vicar of All Saints') and managed to persuade him to hold the wedding on a Wednesday. He promised the Vicar it would be a full church, and so it was — the cycling fraternity attended in force!

Much to their joy, Kim, Lesley and Hazel arrived and soon they were able to move into a newly-built house in Rydall Road, just as the council demolished their previous home, one of the flats in Irton Street. There Ronnie enjoyed a full family life. They all loved the Isle of Arran and enjoyed many wonderful holidays there, returning repeatedly to stay with hosts and friends Morris and Audrey. They could look back on so many happy memories of their time together on the island — so many photos to share. It became a second home for them.

Eventually Colin Davidson bought the cycle shop, but Ronnie stayed on as a cycle mechanic. He was cycling long distances well into his 60s until an accident at the Red House

Farm junction with Fawdon badly undermined his confidence.

Ronnie was very sociable and always active. He played bowls and was a committed member of the Empire Club, serving one time as the secretary. He maintained an allotment and was particularly proud of his leeks. He was a great sportsman, a keen footballer and darts player. He played dominoes, and of course he loved watching cycling and cricket on TV. I once sat with him for an hour in the summer at his home. He had an in-depth knowledge of past cricket players and all their notable performances.

It goes without saying that the loss of Hazel in 2016 was an appalling blow which Ronnie never quite overcame, but he fought on, keeping to his routine.

Ronnie was a faithful member of our Sunday 8am congregation, attending in all weathers, including frost and snow, even when he was not well. He was driving to church until quite recently, always early and often sitting quietly and praying. On Tuesdays and Sundays he always lit a candle in Hazel's memory. His faith remained strong, and he always received the sacrament with humility.

Ronnie was immensely proud of his family — Kim, Lesley and Hazel and their children, and later, his great-grandchildren. He enjoyed their love, support and attention. It was lovely to see Emmett and Ronnie making faces to each other at a service just before Christmas; the youngest and oldest of the family together, clearly fascinated by each other.

Like Hazel, Ronnie was very self-disciplined and focused on getting things right. Ronnie was strong and determined never to give in, so a painful knee did not hold him back.

Ronnie has fought the fight; he has cycled up that last hill. May he now enjoy the view — a view like he'd so often seen in Arran, of colour and beauty, close to those who loved him and are gone from our sight — in heavenly love abiding.

Andrew Shipton

From the Registers

All Saints'

Baptisms

12th February 2023 Isla Jane Banks

Funerals

15th February: Doreen Ashworth, died 14th January aged 96

20th February: Ronnie Robson, died 27th January 2023 aged 92

24th February: Christine White, died 28th January 2023 aged 82

31st March: Ann Shaw, died 12th March aged 83

Burial of Ashes

20th February: Dorothy Elsie Lithgow, died 2nd January 2020 aged 92

10th March: Ronnie Robson

14th March: Doreen Ashworth

Annual Parochial Church Meetings

These important events are an opportunity to hear reports of Church activities over the past year and plans for the year ahead. They are also the time when new PCC members and Churchwardens are elected, where required.

You are encouraged to come along as follows:

All Saints': 11.00am on Sunday 30th April in the Centre.

St Hugh's: 11.00am on Sunday 7th May in Church.

If you are interested in standing as a PCC member, please talk to a churchwarden or a member of the clergy for more information.

From the Editors

We hope you have enjoyed reading this edition of *Keeping in Touch*. It is only as good as its contributors, so please do let us know what you have been doing, review church events for us and send in future plans/news. It all helps us to connect with each other. As soon as we have enough to publish we will put out a further edition.

You can hand contributions to any of the editors, or email to: allsaintsintouch@outlook.com

We look forward to hearing from you.

Lesley Atkinson, Ann Cross, Dermot Killingley, Christine Willoughby

Church contacts

Vicar: Andrew Shipton 2845540
andrew.shipton@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

Assistant Curate: Miriam Jones
07474095190
miriam.jones@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Ruth Birnie 2841393
ruth.birnie@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

Parish Office: 2130450
West Avenue, Gosforth, NE3 4ES
post@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

Sunday services at All Saints'

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evening Prayer

—all livestreamed on YouTube

Updates will be posted on our website:

<https://www.allsaints-gosforth.org.uk/>

Sunday services at St. Hugh's

11.00am

Updates will be posted on our website:

www.facebook.com/St-Hughs-Church-Gosforth



Nursery Places Available!



We have 15 hour and 30 hour places available for September!



At Archbishop Runcie we promote educational excellence for all. The Christian values of Love and Determination are at the core of teaching and culture within our school. In Early Years, we believe that every child is unique and should be treated so allowing them the opportunity to develop and learn in a safe and nurturing environment where play and learning is combined. Wrap around care is also available on site.

Please contact the school office if you would like to book an appointment to visit or require any additional information.

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