

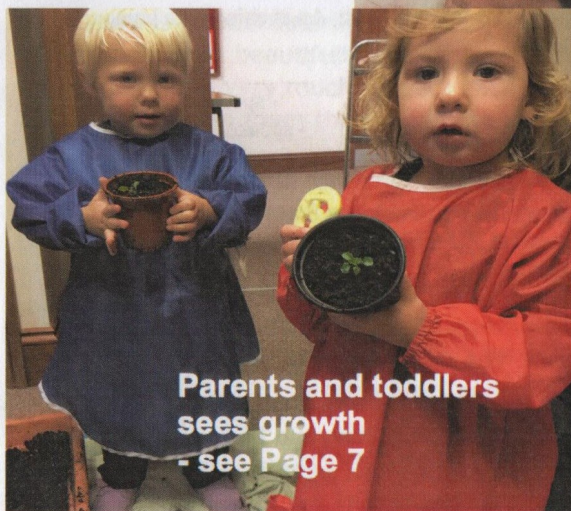
The Messenger

October 2017

**Christ Church
Barnstaple**

Methodist/URC

www.christ-church-
barnstaple.org.uk



**Parents and toddlers
see growth
- see Page 7**

**Café Church
-see Page 6**

**News of events at
Christ Church
-see Page 8**



**Something to celebrate
- see Back Page!**

Rainbows,
Brownies and
Guides Coffee
Evening in aid
Of W.O.R.K.
Tues 17th Oct
6.00-7.30pm

**Oasis
Service
-see Page 5**

**Thursday
Evening
Bible
Studies
-see Page 5**

Calendar

October 2017

Sun	1st		HARVEST FESTIVAL	
		10.30am	Rev Don Macalister	Communion
		6.30pm	Jenny Newman and Eff Poole	
Mon	2nd	7.15pm	Elders' meeting	
Thur	5th	10.00am	- 11.30am Two Bridges Café	see page 14
		2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- speaker Hazel Symons
Fri	6th	10.30am	Friday Bible Study resumes after summer break	
Sat	7th	9.00am	onwards CHURCH CLEANING DAY	see page 13
Sun	8th	10.30am	Geoff Harding	
		4.30pm	Café Church	
Mon	9th	7.30pm	Friendship Group	- speaker Andrea Scott, An evening with humour
Tues	10th	10.00am	- 12noon 'Sound it Out'	
Thur	12th	10.00am	- 11.30am Two Bridges Café	
		2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- speaker Joan Cole
Sat	14th	8.30am	Men's Breakfast	- speaker Philip Young
Sun	15th	10.30am	Rev Don Macalister	
		6.30pm	Rev Robert Hurley	Communion
Tues	17th	6.00pm	- 7.30pm Rainbows, Brownies and Guides coffee evening	see page 4
			- all welcome, proceeds to W.O.R.K.	
Thur	19th	10.00am	- 11.30am Two Bridges Café	
		2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- speaker Brenda Prentice
Fri	20th		<i>Last day for items for the November Messenger</i>	
Sat	21st	7.00pm	Christ Church Variety Show	see page 8
Sun	22nd	10.30am	Rev Don Macalister	
		6.30pm	Shirley Baxter	
Mon	23rd	2.30pm	4th Monday House Group at Port Mill Court	- info Tricia Kent 324254
		7.30pm	Friendship Group	- speaker Ian Kingdom, DCC Keep driving for longer
Tues	24th	10.00am	- 12noon 'Sound it Out'	
Thur	26th		No Two Bridges Café - half term	
		2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- speaker Rev Tony Coates (with bring & buy)
Sun	29th	10.30am	Deacon Joan Cole	
		6.30pm	Oasis - a service of healing and wholeness	

Most Bible Study Groups started again in September - if you need details for the Thursday or Friday Groups get in touch with Joan Cole, Marilyn Tricker or Don - and for the Monday Group, information from Tricia Kent, 4th Monday House Group, as above.

Further ahead:-

Nov	Saturday 4th November	- Circuit Study Day led by Paul Johns	- open to all, see page 11
	Saturday 4th November	- 7.30pm Jazz evening at Sticklepath	- see page 12
	Sunday 5th November	- morning service Paul Johns	
	Thursday 9th	2.30pm - Christmas Shoe Boxes etc. to be collected for International Aid Trust. All are welcome to come along.	
	Saturday 11th	9.00am - 12.30pm Church Winter Fair	- see page 9
Dec	Saturday 9th December	7.00pm Carols by Candlelight	

Message

Dear Friends,

Eddy and I have just got back from our daughter Laura and son-in-law Kev's wedding in Northumberland. It was a wonderful couple of weeks, the first week helping with final little details, such as collecting Laura's wedding dress, the second week catching breath and enjoying the Northumberland coast.

Laura is extraordinarily organised, just like her mother, and the day of the wedding ran beautifully smoothly and was a most joyful wedding of two people who very much respect each other and whose deep friendship and love will help them through all the ups and downs of life.

Love is a powerful force for good. Love builds relationships between individuals and that can be such an amazing and wonderful blessing. In a way even more amazing is the love that reaches out to those we don't know, other than the fact that they are in need of our help.

Of course I believe the most amazing love of all is God's love, a love that knows us more intimately than any husband or wife can ever know us, better even than we know ourselves, and still loves us completely and utterly and unconditionally.

Please pray for those who feel unloved or even unlovable; that they may know that God loves them, and so do we.

With love,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Don' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Prayers for October

1st October

Lord, you have made me who and what I am and you love me –
I thank you.

You are God of wisdom and power –

I will listen to you and follow you.

You are the way, the truth and the life –

I will seek you in your world and celebrate your presence. Amen.

8th October

Lord, help me to put the past behind me
and to strain forward to what lies ahead.
May I always press on towards the goal
for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. Amen.

15th October

We come to you in prayer, loving Lord,
for you are a refuge for the poor.
We draw near with our concerns,
for you are a refuge for the needy in their distress.
In you we pause and rest,
for you are a shelter from the storm,
and a shade from the heat. Amen.

22nd October

We give thanks for those whose labour is prompted by love of you and of
their neighbours. We pray for those who work in health care,
those who look after people in residential care, those who support their
families, friends and strangers. Amen.

29th October

O loving God, fill me with your Spirit, that I may always know your
presence. Uphold me by your strength, that I may always do your will. Fill
me with your love, that I may live in holiness, righteousness and truth.
Amen.

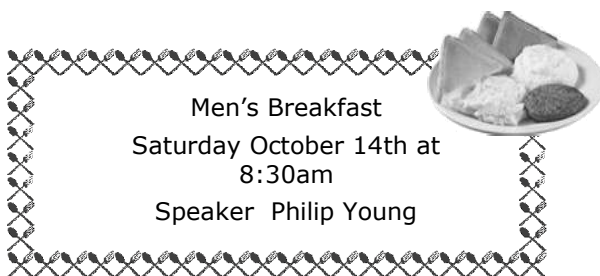


The Rainbows, Brownies and Guides
are holding a Coffee Evening in aid of W.O.R.K. on
Tuesday 17th October from 6.00pm to 7.30 pm.
Bring and Buy Stall, Games and Challenges.
Please come and join us.



Wanted

Someone to take over organising the rota for door stewards. Writing
out the rota, distributing it and letting the stewards know each week
which hymn book will be used. Please see Reg & Muriel for further
information.



Men's Breakfast
Saturday October 14th at
8:30am
Speaker Philip Young

Oasis services

The next Oasis service will be on Sunday October 29th at 6.30pm. As this date is near All Souls Day it seems a good opportunity to make time for people to remember loved ones who have died, perhaps with the opportunity to light a candle, or write down names.

These services of healing and wholeness have aimed to create space in our busy lives for quiet reflection and prayer, with opportunity for people to make prayer requests.

Each service has been based around a Bible passage, with a visual focal point, music and meditations linked with these:

Oct. 2016	The woman at the well (John 4)
Jan. 2017	Elijah and the still small voice (1 Kings 19)
April 2017	The Road to Emmaus (Luke 24)
July 2017	Jesus calms the storm (Mark 4)

Any comments or suggestions about the Oasis services will be welcome.

Rev. Marilyn

Methodist Women in Britain

The MWiB Circuit Committee meets at Fremington on Monday Oct. 9th at 2.15pm

There is a District Day at Plympton on Thursday October 12th (contact Brenda Prentice for further details [01271 377323]).

Thursday evening Bible studies

The group meets from 7.30 – 9.00pm in Room 4, and anyone is welcome, even if you haven't been to earlier sessions. The last of the present series (on Acts 13-28) will be on October 19th.



Christ Church children and supporters were drummers at Barnstaple Carnival 2017



**The cupboards are filling up!
Speak to Sylvia about the Christmas Shoe box this year**

Young Families Work

We had a wonderful first week back, beginning on the Wednesday with our Drop-in Stay and Play group along with Action for Children. Many families happily returned and new families are expected in the coming weeks. The Tesco Fare Share food project is working well in conjunction with this group.

In Toddlers Praise we have been covering Old Testament stories including 'Moses', 'Joseph' and 'David and Goliath'. This is always done in a creative toddler-friendly way. The children particularly enjoyed following the trail of the various parts of the story of Moses.

Yeo Valley School 'Open the Book' Assemblies have been themed on 'Mary and Martha' and 'The Widow's Coins'. The children enjoyed joining in with the songs 'Praise Ye the Lord', 'Jesus Love is Very Wonderful' and 'Our God is a Great Big God'. The colourful dancing ribbons are especially popular with the children.

Café Church focused on our connections with countries in Africa and we were pleased to welcome children and their parents coming for the first time.

Children from Sunday Club took part in the Barnstaple Carnival again this year. They played the African drums which was a great lead-up to the judging of the children's groups. All the children (and adults!) received a carnival medal, and the rain thankfully held off!

God bless,

Jo

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal - *just a reminder*

We will be organising the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal again this year, on behalf of I.A.D. (International Aid Trust) - a Christian charity showing compassion to a hurting world.

If you are able to participate in any way it would be very much appreciated. All boxes should be completed and given to me at the end of October if possible.

The shoe boxes, blankets, knitted garments and donations of money to help with transport costs, will be collected from Christ Church on Thursday 9th November at 2:30pm. Everyone welcome.

If you need any help or further information please contact me on 01271 346607.

Thank you so much, Sylvia (Jones).



ENTERTAINMENT EVENING
THE SPICE OF LIFE
CHRIST CHURCH BARNSTAPLE
SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER
7PM

ENTRANCE £5 ON THE DOOR
TO INCLUDE LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
(IN AID OF CHURCH FUNDS)



CHRIST CHURCH BARNSTAPLE
WINTER FAIR
SATURDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2017

9am-12.30pm.

STALLS. / REFRESHMENTS.



EVENTS

Saturday 21st October at 7pm

We are very much looking forward to our Entertainment Evening "The Spice of Life" which promises to be an evening showcasing the talents of our own fellowship. It will probably surprise you to find out how talented some people are. Come and join us for fun, laughter and surprise, with a cup of tea to follow. It is always nice to support your own people who are going out of their way to provide you with entertainment at a bargain price!



Saturday 11th November 9am-12.30pm

This is the date of our Winter Fair. There will be a minute's silence led by Rev Don at 11am.

Enter this date in your diary now so that you can start preparing and thinking about what good quality items you can donate.

As we have done for the Spring Fair, we will be listing dates for items to be handed into church so look out for the details in the Church Notices.

The dates are also listed below:-

October 8th	Books
October 15th	Unwanted gifts. Bric a Brac.
October 22nd	Toiletries and knitted goods.
October 29th	Tins, jams and kitchen items.
November 5th	Last chance Sunday donation.



Liz Seymour will be running a new stall this year, which will be a Gift Stall. She would welcome donations of food stuffs and chocolate that is still in date, toiletries, soaps, good quality mugs and craft items. To see what is eventually on the stall you will have to come along and see for yourself!

Andy Morley (Secretary Events Committee)



Tuesday coffee rota

Oct	3rd	Tony, Celia & Lorna	Nov	7th	Ena, George & Rose
Oct	10th	Sylvia, Pam & Gordon	Nov	14th	Tony, Celia & Lorna
Oct	17th	Wendy, Anne & Gill	Nov	21st	Sylvia, Pam & Gordon
Oct	24th	Pam, Rose & Sylvia	Nov	28th	Wendy, Anne & Gill
Oct	31st	Joy & Andy			



SOUND IT OUT

Coffee, Cake and Chat together
with Singing and Music too!
NO musical talent required.

'Sound It Out'
is a fortnightly group, particularly aimed
at supporting people with memory loss
and their carers.

Tuesdays (fortnightly)
10am – 12 noon
September 12th, 26th
October 10th, 24th
November 14th, 28th
December 12th only

Christ Church
Bear Street
Barnstaple

To find out more, talk to:
Sally Blackmore: scheme.barnstaplechaplain@mha.org.uk
Rebecca Bartlett: liveathome.barnstaple@mha.org.uk
Marilyn Tricker: marker3mj@gmail.com
Telephone: 01271 321574
Main sponsors: The Bridge Trust & Barnstaple Rotary Shop Grant




Dear All,

"Sound It Out" is a fortnightly singing/music session aimed at people in our community and in care homes with memory loss. The idea is that people with dementia/memory loss come along with their partner, friend or carer to have a bit of fun, relax, sing for memory, have coffee & cake and get support. "Sound It Out" is a joint venture organised by MHA (Methodist Homes) and Christ Church, Bear St, Barnstaple. We employ a professional music therapist to run the sessions. The sessions are held in the church and there is Christian ethos behind what we offer, but the sessions are not religious in any way. There is no cost to attend, although people may make voluntary contributions toward refreshments if they wish to. We have been running for a year now and we really want to get the word out to a wider audience. Are you able to help us through publicity in any way?

You are welcome to pay us a visit to see what we do and bring anyone with you. You will see from the poster I've attached when the sessions are. Maybe you could put a poster up or tell people about us?

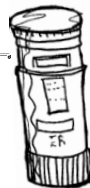
Many thanks and regards,

Sally (Blackmore)



Maureen and I would like to **thank** everyone for their good wishes, prayers and cards received for my recent eye operation (trabeculectomy for those of you who like to know these things). The doctors are very pleased with the progress made since the operation in August and hopefully it won't be too long before I am driving again and "normal service" is resumed.

Chris Thomas.



**You are warmly invited to the
Ilfracombe & Barnstaple Circuit Study Day
to be led by**

Paul Johns

**from the College of Preachers
the day is entitled**

"Engaging the Congregation"

**and will be held on
Saturday 4th November, 2017
at Christ Church, Barnstaple
10:00am ~ 4:00pm**

The cost of the day is £10 and includes a cooked lunch
& other refreshments

Please book your place by
Wednesday the 1st of November to Shirley Baxter
01271~375560
or shirleybaxter@gmx.co.uk

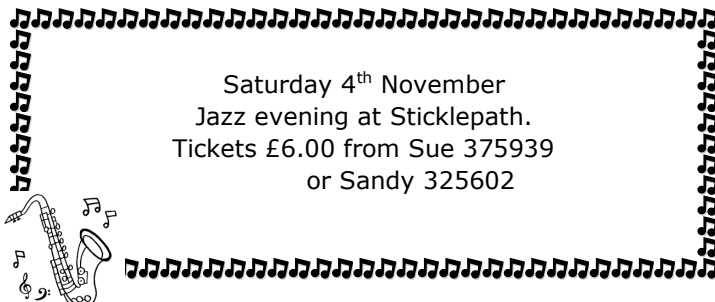


REJOICE


SING WITH US
worship
 prayer & praise

CHRIST CHURCH BARNSTAPLE

SUNDAY 5TH NOVEMBER
 6.30 – 7.30PM



Saturday 4th November
 Jazz evening at Sticklepath.
 Tickets £6.00 from Sue 375939
 or Sandy 325602



I would like to say **thank you** to those who sent cards phoned visited and prayed for me. It meant so much to me. I have had wonderful treatment from the physio team and now only slight weakness on my right side. It has been so good to get back to Church on Sundays.

Judith.



Church Cleaning Day **October 7th 9:00am onwards**

***Don't miss the social
event of the year!!***

Any time you can spare during
the morning will be useful -

there are short jobs and long jobs
and of course making the tea!

Please bring along your own
favourite cleaning kit.



Our family matters

Christ Church Family News

There are many of our church family on the sick list and some house-bound. They are named in the Prayer Book, which is kept in the vestry and used in Sunday services and at prayer meetings.

If you would like your name to be added to the list in the Prayer Book, please speak to the duty elder on a Sunday. If you know of someone who is unable to come on a Sunday, but would like their name added, please check with them first as the names in the book may be read out in church.


 We said **a big thank** you to Jack last month for acting as Picture Editor, when David was away on holiday. Thank you very much for helping us get the magazine out. If anyone else would like to Guest Edit the magazine or edit the picture pages you would be very welcome. Maybe you have in mind an article (short or long) on a topic you would like others to know about - don't be shy, send it in, we are always looking for contributions. From recipes and gardening tips to views on the state of the world we will look at them all.

DW & KJ

Two Bridges Café

Thursdays 10.00 to 11.30am during Term Time

(Please note new times and menu)

We are happy to announce that we have welcomed back the Two Bridges Café, and that it is now up and running again every Thursday (except in the holidays). As before, there is a catering team of four students from Pathfield School – two well known faces and two new recruits, who are coming to learn the skills of working in a café. Tam continues to be at the helm along with one of her Teaching Assistant colleagues. At the moment the Café has a more limited menu due to its reduced hours – hopefully to be extended - but there will still be delicious home-made cakes with the addition of home-made scones – maybe giving you an opportunity to have a morning cream tea!

So the menu will be as follows:

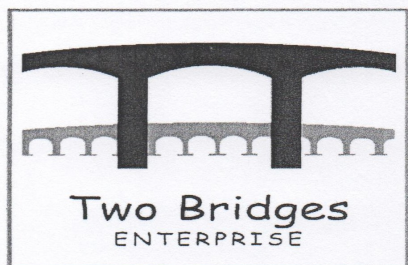
Tea, coffee, hot chocolate, squash

Handmade cakes and cookies, rock buns

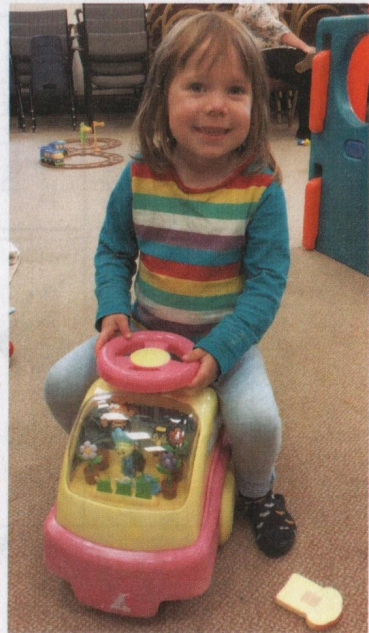
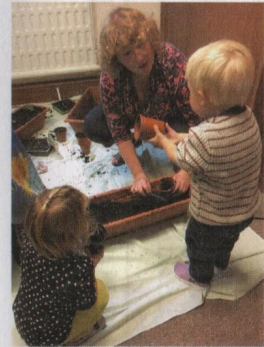
Savoury scones, served with chutney and cheese









Plain scones, served with jam and cream




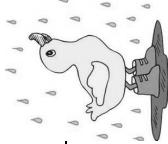
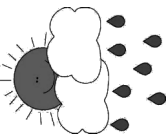

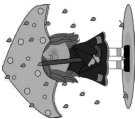

So please come along to welcome the Two Bridges Café team again - to support them all - and of course, to enjoy the yummy products of the students' cookery classes.



Parents and Toddlers meets every Wednesday Christ Church 1.30-3.00- contact Jo Grant 07450582414



SUNDAY ROTAS	1st October	8th October	15th October	22nd October	29th October
Coffee 	Pauline Dawson	Joy Morley	Gill Tucker	Pam Topham	Nicola Wilkins
Flowers 			Shirley Punt	George Hopkins	Alison Cairns
Projector 	Kathy Jeacock	Andy Morley	David Wilson	Gordon Pearce	Jack Neville
Preparing Communion Morning 1st Sunday Evening 3rd Sunday	Gordon & Pam Pearce		Anthea Coates		
Serving Communion 	Ian Allen Elaine Stevens Jack Neville Norman Tucker				
Vestry Steward Morning Evening 	Ian Allen Sylvia Jones	Gill Greenland Eff Poole	Jack Neville Shirley Baxter	Ronnie Wilson Anthea Coates	Elaine Stevens Eff Poole

SUNDAY ROTAS	5th November	12th November	19th November	26th November
Coffee 	Elaine Stevens	Diana Snell	Sally Blackmore	Muriel Symons
Flowers 	-	-	-	-
Projector 	Kathy Jeacock	Andy Morley	David Wilson	Gordon Pearce
Preparing Communion Morning 1st Sunday Evening 3rd Sunday	Gordon & Pam Pearce		Elaine Stevens	
Serving Communion 	Liz Seymour Ronnie Wilson David Wilson Jenny Newman			
Vestry Steward Morning Evening 	Liz Seymour Sylvia Jones	Ian Allen Shirley Baxter	Jack Neville Anthea Coates	Ronnie Wilson Eff Poole

Weekly Meetings

Monday		Short Mat Bowling ...	contact Mary Biederman tel 373416
	10.00am - 12.00 noon	morning session	
	2.30pm - 4.30pm	afternoon session	
	7.00pm - 9.00pm	evening session	
	7.30pm	Friendship group	(2nd & 4th Mondays of each month) contact Rose de la Cour tel 830824
Tuesday			
	9.30am - 12.00 noon	Coffee morning	
	9.30am	Prayer meeting ...	(except the last Tuesday of each month)
	10.30am	Holy Communion ...	(last Tuesday of each month)
	5.30pm - 6.30pm	Rainbows ...	contact Nicola Wilkins tel 377154
	5.30pm - 7.00pm	Brownies ...	contact Nicola Wilkins tel 377154
	7.00pm - 8.30pm	Guides ...	contact Eff Poole tel 373543
Wednesday			
	1.30pm - 3.00pm	Parents & Toddlers	contact Jo Grant 07450582414
Thursday			
	2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship ...	contact Sylvia Jones tel 346607
	7.30pm	Bible Study...	contact Shirley Baxter tel 375560
Friday	10.00am - 12.00 noon	Hobnob coffee morning	
	10.30am	Bible Study...	
Saturday		2nd Saturday of each month - circuit event	
	8.30am	Men's Breakfast	contact Mike Smith tel 345019

All at Christ Church Barnstaple are committed to the following Safeguarding Principles:

- * the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults.
- * the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults.
- * the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
(Methodist Church Safeguarding Handbook 2010)

Sunday Offertory for August 2017

		Cash	Envelopes
Aug	6th	£	£
	13th	£	£
	20th	£	£
	27th	£	£

An increasing number of people are donating money direct to the Church account by standing order. Currently this offertory is £ per month. Not forgetting, of course, that *if you are a tax payer*, you can gift aid your offering however it is given.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Christ Church, Barnstaple (Methodist/United Reformed) seeks to be an ecumenical, town centre church, bearing witness to the evangelical and social justice traditions of the Christian faith in its expression of the love of Christ for people of all ages. One church, one faith, one Lord.

*If you are visiting Christ Church today we extend a warm welcome.
Please take a Messenger home with our good wishes.*

Christ Church Minister
Rev Don Macalister
8 Kestrel Way,
Westacott
Barnstaple EX32 8QN

tel. 01271 345313
dasmacalister@icloud.com

Young families worker
Jo Grant

jogrant-christchurch@outlook.com
tel 07450 582414

Elders

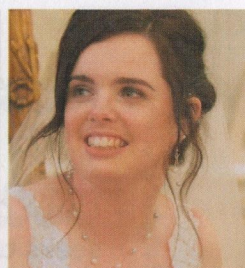
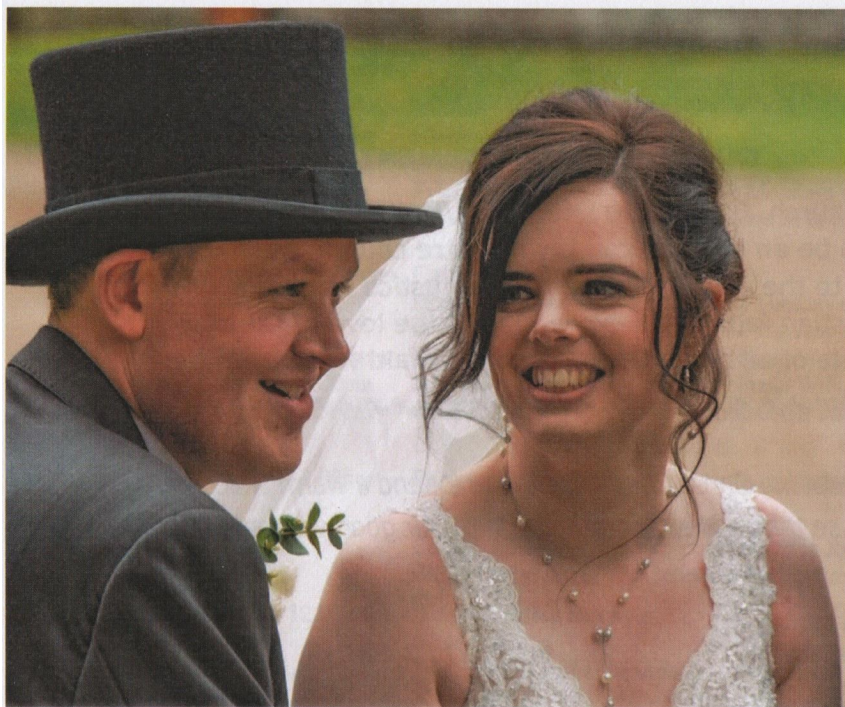
Ian Allen	Kathy Jeacock (treas)	Liz Seymour
Shirley Baxter	Sylvia Jones	Elaine Stevens (sec)
Anthea Coates	Jack Neville	Ronnie Wilson
Gill Greenland	Eff Poole	

Telephone Directory (01271)

Church Secretary	as per the Church Directory
Church Treasurer	373555
Room Bookings	343218
Circuit Administrators	379116

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A Happy Day - The Wedding of Rev Don and Eddy's daughter Laura and Kev in Northumberland

