



*The Parish Churches of  
Brookfield, Stainton &  
Hilton*

FEBRUARY 2019

# THE MESSENGER



**DEAR FRIENDS**

**NATIVITY PLAY**

**COFFEE AND KIDS**

50p

**Vicar: Revd. Vivienne Hatton**

**hatton.v@yahoo.com**

**01642 958686**

**Like us on Facebook:**

**S Peter and S Paul Church Stainton**

**St Margaret's Brookfield**

**St Peter Hilton**

**www.staintonhiltonbrookfieldchurches.org.uk**

**Churchwardens:**

**Brookfield:**

**Acting Church Wardens**

**Janet & Malcolm Granville**

**01642 821564**

**Stainton:**

**Vernon Clare 01642 592186**

**Colin Mason 01642 591667**

**Hilton:**

**Barbara Sowerby 01642 591532**

**Sally Hamlin 01642 590385**

**Wednesdays at Brookfield**

10.00am – Holy Communion

10.30am – Coffee Morning

**Stainton – 15th**

11.30am Holy Communion

**CHURCH OFFICE**

**Office closed until further notice!**

**HALL BOOKINGS**

**For St Margaret's Church  
Brookfield**

**Church Office 01642 597454**

**MESSENGER DISTRIBUTION**

**Brookfield**

**Betty Spragg – 01642 284841**

**Stainton**

**David Gatenby – 01642 290918**

**Contributions for Messenger to**

**David Gatenby**

**David.gatenby@ntlworld.com**

**Our new Administrator is**

**Stephanie Barratt**

**Office Hours:**

**Tues, Thurs 10:30 - 11:30 hours**

**Sat 09:00 - 11:00 hours**

**Tel: 01642 597454**

# Dear friends

## To all my friends ... Happy New Year

**T**HIS is my first opportunity to wish you all a happy new year. We lost some much loved church members during the last year but there were still many blessings for our church communities especially the way that the three fellowships are starting to work together.

The success of the family fun day and Christingle service at Brookfield, the family workshops at Stainton and the Filling Station at Hilton all show that sharing resources can benefit the whole plurality. I am hoping that we will continue to get closer to each other during the current year.

Joint services once a month will help but they will not be enough. The three PCCs will meet together to discuss the way forward. This is especially important as each of the churches are reaching the end of their five-year Vision Statements.

This year we shall be reviewing what we have achieved as individual churches and as a plurality before discerning where God is leading us next. I am convinced that the answer will lie in both reaching out as individual churches and working together as a plurality for the sake of the Kingdom.

The new-build estates in our area are a huge mission opportunity. In October the church wardens and I met with the church wardens and ministers of the churches along the Parkway to discuss how we might meet that challenge. I am sure this will be at the forefront of our vision thinking.

It might seem daunting but we must never forget that God's Kingdom is important to Him.

We do not have to find the way forward – we simply need seek where he is leading and then step out in faith so it is important that everything we do is underpinned with prayer.

### **Remember:-**

If the Lord does not build the house, the work of the builders is useless. (Psalm 127:1). So please, if you are not already praying for the work of our churches, please start praying now.

**Blessings, Vivienne**

---

## Christians in Hilton

Christians in Hilton is an ecumenical group of Christians who meet fortnightly for bible study and prayer. You are very welcome to come and join us. All meetings start at 10am with coffee and a chat and the dates/venues for the next few months are as follows:

- 14 Feb at Kath's
- 28 Feb at Carolyn and Graham's
- 14 March at Sally's
- 28 March at Margaret's

For the full address of each venue please contact the church office.

# A big Thank You to you all

I wish to thank you for all the support, prayers, cards and flowers shown to me and my family after the sudden death of Brian on 14th December 2018. We did feel overwhelmed at how many friends and relations showing that they cared who came to the Funeral Service on 3rd January 2019 we really appreciated their support. Also special thanks to 'The Church Family' Reverend Vivienne, Vergers Florence and Kath, flowers-Janet, food/refreshments - Margaret and also washer uppers a big thank you to all who helped. Brian would have really loved listening to the Music, Thanks Malcolm and Janet.

Last but not least Donations for the Church and Sponsor a Puppy for a Guide Dog for the Blind raised £370.00 THANK YOU ALL.

**Linda Nixon and Family**

## Gift service at St Margaret's Church, Brookfield 2nd December 2018

As you can see by the photograph the response was magnificent. Your generosity was truly appreciated by The Salvation Army. A big thank you to everyone. Thank you – **Florence.**



## A Flashback in Time

I normally listen to Songs of Praise on BBC One and the programme on the 13th February when Aled Jones hosted the programme from the Isle of Sheppey in Kent and interviewed The Reverend Cindy Kent who had retired there.

It was great to see Cindy and trust she enjoys her retirement. We have all become more mature over the years, she will be in her seventies!

I first knew of her as one of the Settlers pop group as lead singer.

When I was asked to be Mothers' Union Newcastle Diocesan Media Chairman which involved three visits each year to London to Mary Sumner House meeting up with members from all other dioceses from the United Kingdom. At that time we tried to inform the general public how to contact and make comments to broadcasters on radio and television and the print media of what was seen or heard which could be questionable.

About the same time Mary Whitehouse was being very prominent with her comments.

This is where Cindy and I met...with the sponsorship of the Sainsbury family together with Mothers' Union we had the "Media Awareness Project". I organised an event in Newcastle to which people came to hear about the various forms of media and how to comment. Cindy came up and presented our message.

I knew that Cindy was on the radio, in London, but apparently was given an MBE in 2016 for religious broadcasting. What I did not know was that she was ordained priest until the Songs of Praise programme. **Elizabeth Revett**

## Services February 2019 + 3rd March

<b>Date</b>	<b>Brookfield</b> 9.15am unless otherwise stated	<b>Stainton</b> 10.45am unless otherwise stated	<b>Hilton</b> Timings vary
3 Feb 5 <sup>th</sup> before Lent Green 1 Corinthians 13 Luke 2:22-40	No service	No service	10.30am Joint Holy Communion VH
10 Feb 4 <sup>th</sup> before Lent Green 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11	Holy Communion VH	Family Communion VH	8am Holy Communion VH
17 Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup> before Lent Green 1 Corinthians 15:12- 20 Luke 6:17-26	Communion for all ages VH	Holy Communion VH	9.30am Morning Praise NH
24 Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup> before Lent Green Genesis 2:4b-9, 15- end Luke 8:22-25	Holy Communion VH	Holy Communion RD	8am Holy Communion VH
3 Mar Sunday before Lent Green Exodus 34:29-end Luke 9:28-36	10.30am Joint Holy Communion VH	No service	No service

Wednesdays at Brookfield Holy Communion 10am (use the readings for the previous Sunday)

Ash Wednesday Holy Communion  
10am at Brookfield  
7pm at Stainton

### Christmas Coffee Morning

On behalf of St Margaret's PCC, I would like to thank all the members of the church who donated a lot of chocolate for the tombola, prizes for the raffle, and two lovely hampers. We managed to raise £422 for the church funds.

A big thank you to all who helped on the day, for the church funds.

A big thank you to all who helped on the day, working on the stalls, in the kitchen, and even clearing away after the even. **Florence**

## Coffee and Kids

THE year ended at Coffee and Kids with a Christmas Party and a visit from "Santa" it was a very exciting and happy morning, with "nearly all the children seeing Santa", there were plenty of snacks for everyone and a lot of singing and some DVDs of the story of the birth of Jesus, everyone including the Big People having a good time.



We currently have around 16 children each week, about three quarters are about 18 months and under, most of the children who came to the start of Coffee and Kids have now progressed onto school!!!! it's three and a half years since we started!!! time flies when you are having fun!

If anyone knows of children and carers who might enjoy a morning of playing, snacks, chatting, a cup of tea or coffee with a singsong to finish please let them know that we are open on a Wednesday 10am to 12 noon in the parish room at Stainton.



Also if you would like to help in any way please feel free to come along and chat to Judith, Bob, Joan and Vernon.

---

## A WARM WELCOME – the new 'Brand' for Stainton Drop-In

STAINTON Drop-In has new posters and a magnificent new Banner to display on Tuesdays on the churchyard wall. They feature the WARM WELCOME logo, showing a steaming mug held in two hands.



On 11 December we held a special celebration at our regular Drop-In to mark our launch as a member of the 'WARM WELCOME' network. A ribbon was cut and a cake shared. 'A WARM WELCOME' is co-ordinated by Together Middlesbrough and Cleveland, a joint project of the Diocese of York and the Church Urban Fund, and one of the partner organisations in Ageing Better Middlesbrough. Church-based WARM WELCOME groups from across our area share common values and a common desire to reach out to others by providing a safe and friendly place where folk can find companionship, simple refreshments and a chat. We look forward to more people hearing about our Drop-In and coming along as a result of wider reaching WARM WELCOME publicity.



Join us in Stainton Church Room any Tuesday afternoon if you can, and please tell others about our Warm Welcome Drop-In!

**Julia Ardley**

# What's on ...

## February dates for your diary

---

Also – always check the weekly pewsheet

---

### Weekly Events in our Group of Churches

#### Bible Fellowship Groups

Mondays at 1.30pm Brookfield lounge  
Wednesdays at 2pm Stainton Church Room

#### Coffee and Kids Pop-In

Wednesdays 10am Stainton Church Room

#### Everyone Welcome Drop-ins

Tuesdays 2pm-4pm Stainton Church Room  
Thursdays 2pm-4pm Brookfield Church Hall  
Wednesdays 10am (term-time) Hilton Church Wardens Hour

### CHRISTIANS IN HILTON

Christians in Hilton meet fortnightly on Thursdays at 10am.  
Please contact Sally (01642 590385) or Kath (01642 597909) for more information.

---

### THE 'COFFEE AND KIDS' POP-IN

The Coffee and Kids parent/carer and toddler group on Wednesdays at Stainton is great fun! We are open 10.00am to 12 noon each Wednesday. We have between 10-14 under-3's coming along to the Stainton Parish Room each week, supervised by a parent or a grandparent. The children have a great time playing together and at the end of the session they sing their favourite action songs. Sometimes they do some activities. If anyone wants to find out more about Coffee and Kids then please do get in touch with the Leaders: Judith and Vernon Clare; Bob Ardley and Joan Mason.



## HILTON FILLING STATION

The filling station is a monthly mid-week opportunity for Christians to worship together. We enjoy good coffee and cakes, informal worship, teaching and prayer.

Newcomers always welcome  
Find out more at our Filling Station Webpage:

<http://thefillingstation.org.uk/station/hilton/>

**Angela Sayer**

# Nativity Play – St Margaret’s Church



ON Sunday 16th December 2018 members of the congregation performed a Nativity Play.

This was our third year and I would like to thank everyone who participated.

I am sure it was enjoyed by all and everyone looked stunning in their costumes.

Next time we hope to have more people including children but in the meantime telling the Christmas story was wonderful.

**Janet Granville**

## Reflections of Remembrance



ON the Sunday before 11th November, as I walked slowly towards Lutyens' towering Memorial to the Missing at Thiepval on the Somme, my attention was caught by a number of people bending over some objects in the grass to my left. A modest notice explained that this was an art installation called 'Lost Lives' (also known as 'Shrouds of the Somme') by artist Rob Heard. Planted in the grass in a direct line from the Thiepval Memorial was a small marker for each of the 1,561 days of the First World War. Each marker was inscribed with the number of soldiers of the British Empire killed on that day. And in front of each marker lay a small figure in a hand-stitched shroud, symbolic of each individual life lost and of a cumulative total (983,779) beyond my power to imagine. In Exeter and in London respectively, varying numbers of shrouded figures have been used to represent the number killed on the first day of the Battle of the Somme: 19,240; and the number of individual soldiers named on Memorial to the Missing of the Somme: 72,396.

I cannot grasp loss of life on this scale, even with this stark representation laid out in front of me. I cannot begin to imagine how many other lives were plunged into despair as a result of each death in action. I cannot picture the years of desolation, of grief over futures lost, of pain undulled by the passage of time. But I think I can imagine anger. Wouldn't you, in 1914-18, have felt anger at what Wilfred Owen called 'the pity of war'? At the perceived errors of its generals or the indiscriminate nature of its slaughter? Anger with God, who allowed it to happen; who spared some while allowing others to be killed?

On my recent visit to cemeteries of the Western Front, I found no anger, only a great sadness. The only way I can begin to grasp the enormity of suffering which such places represent is to focus on one soldier's grave at a time. Baron Harries of Pentregarth (former Bishop of Oxford) spoke recently of a war in which the Bible was familiar and 'to hand' for both soldiers (who were issued with New Testaments) and for many at home in a way which is no longer the case today. Scripture Readers, drawn from among Army chaplains and retired servicemen, visited the wounded to comfort and pray with them. The Commonwealth War Graves cemeteries, each with its Cross of Sacrifice, and those many unnamed headstones inscribed simply with a cross and the words 'A Soldier of the Great War: Known unto God', reminded me that God was not absent from the horror or the aftermath of the Great War. Nor is He absent from our present day Acts of Remembrance, though these rightly embrace and commemorate those of all faiths and none. To look on the graves, the names, the Shrouds of the Somme, felt overwhelming at times. Reflecting now on those sights prompts me to give thanks to God for the selfless service of so many and to affirm that, though He may not shield us from suffering, He is ever the healer and keeper of our souls.

**Julia Ardley**



# 'Going for a Song!'

The family of David Clark have some items of furniture, tableware and cookware to clear from his home. Items include:

**Dining table with 4 chairs**  
**Wall unit with matching corner shelves**

**Television table**

**Computer table**

**Several small tables**

**Large Pine wardrobe**

**Pine Headboard**

**2 Pine Bookcases**

**2 Double bed bases**

**Chest of drawers & Wardrobe**

**School desk**

**Fridge/Freezer**

**Cabinet freezer**

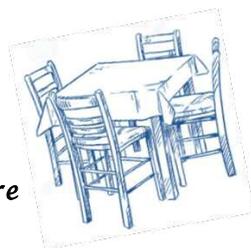
**Microwave**

**Hostess Trolley**

**A selection of tableware & Cookware**

**Garden furniture**

**Lawnmower**



Come along to David's home in Ricknall Close TS5  
8RR on **Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> February**, from **12 noon**.

All items are yours for free if you can take them  
away: first come, first served.

**Everything is going for a song,  
but the singing is optional!**

\*Please note: The House will be signposted on the day\*



# Hope of the Nations

In our house it's always a struggle to get organised. There's the last-minute rush to send Christmas cards, to find time to write a bit more than 'Best wishes from...'. There are dozens of 'last-minutes' at other times of year. And there are many didn't-get-round-to-its, which nag me and make me feel guilty. The first card I received last December was from my cousin. It is many years since we met. In reply to her news, much of it sad and wistful, I caught myself writing 'We hope to come over and see you in the New Year.' In my mind, this is more than a hope: it is a PLAN! Except that there isn't a date, and I haven't actually arranged anything yet. So maybe it's more of.... a good intention? A promise? No, definitely not a promise: even I can see it's not firm enough to be a promise, either to my cousin or to myself. Never mind, we human beings can always hope. We 'live in hope if we die in despair'. We tag an unlikely outcome with 'some hope' or 'not a hope'. It can all sound, frankly..... pretty hopeless. In Chapter 13 of his first letter to the Christians at Corinth, St Paul places Hope alongside Faith and Love. The greatest of these, he writes, is Love. Okay, we get that. And we are happy with the importance he gives to Faith, because if you're going to be a Christian, Faith has to be in the mix somewhere. But Hope? For myself, I might be hard pushed to explain what Love or Faith means in the Bible. But I would attempt it. Hope, though? Where does Hope fit in? The traditional Christian symbol for Hope is the anchor. For myself, I am going to adopt the Star – an idea suggested in part by an Epiphany sermon I heard this year. The Magi set off on a quest of hope. But this was not the wishy-washy platitudinous hope that human beings conjure up for themselves. It was underpinned by prophecy, the Word of God, and they followed the Star from conviction, never doubting that they would find the King whose birth had been foretold. They didn't know where they were going, but they knew who they wanted to find. These days, when Christmas finally comes, a sense of anticlimax seems to come with it. For some, hopes are dashed, and it seems it might indeed be better to travel in hope than to arrive and be disappointed. But the Hope God offers is akin to a promise, and worth waiting patiently for (Romans 8:25). Our guiding Star, Jesus Christ, the Hope of Glory, is in us (Colossians 1:27) and goes before us. He calls us to Hope and offers us the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints (Ephesians 1:18). He is the Hope of the Nations, the new-born King at journey's end. Enjoy the words of this worship song while you rejoice in the Hope to which we are called. And yes, I have today written to my cousin to suggest we meet.

Jesus, hope of the nations

Jesus, comfort for all who mourn

You are the source of Heaven's hope on earth.

Jesus, light in the darkness

Jesus, truth in each circumstance

You are the source of Heaven's light on earth... You are the hope living in us.

*Brian Doerksen, 2008*

**Julia Ardley**

# THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

## The Red Arrows



**T**he Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team, the Red Arrows, is one of the world's premier aerobatic display teams.

Representing the speed, agility and precision of the Royal Air Force, the team is the public face of the service. They assist in recruiting to the Armed Forces, act as ambassadors for the United Kingdom at home and overseas and promote the best of British.

Flying distinctive Hawk fast-jets, the team is made up of pilots, engineers and essential support staff with frontline, operational experience. Together, they demonstrate the excellence and capabilities of the Royal Air

Force and the Service's skilled, talented people.

With their trademark Diamond Nine shape and combination of close formations and precision flying, the Red Arrows have been displaying since 1965.

All Red Arrows display pilots have flown operationally, in frontline aircraft such as the advanced Typhoon, and helped the Royal Air Force to secure the skies every day of the year.

Based at RAF Scampton in Lincolnshire, the Red Arrows had flown almost 4,900 displays in 57 countries, by the beginning of 2018 –



the Squadron's 54th season

Displays by the Red Arrows are one of the ways the UK strengthens its relationships abroad, benefitting defence and prosperity. The team provides the UK, as the Royal Air Force does, with a great ability and option to promote and support the country's interests – diplomatically, industrially and militarily.

The Red Arrows have, by the end of the 2016 season, displayed in 57 countries worldwide. The 2016 Asia-Pacific and Middle East Tour was a great example of how the Red Arrows represent the UK far away from home. The nine-week, 20,000-mile deployment visited 17 countries and drew a global audience of a billion people - seeing the team display in China for the first time.

Every time these jets fly overhead I question how they fly so close together and not lose control? One obvious reason I learned is humility. Trusting that the lead pilot is travelling at precisely the correct speed and trajectory, the wing pilots surrender any desire to switch directions or

question their leader's path; instead, they get information and follow. The result? A more powerful team.

It's no different for those followers of Jesus. He says, "Whoever want to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me"

His path was one of self-denial and suffering, which can be hard to follow, but to be his disciples; we too are invited to put aside selfish desires and pick up spiritual burdens, serving others first instead of ourselves, closely following him.

**David Gatenby**



# Refugees

by Brian Bilston

They have no need of our help  
So do not tell me  
These haggard faces could belong to you or me  
Should life have dealt a different hand  
We need to see them for who they really are  
Chancers and Scroungers  
Layabouts and Loungers  
With bombs up their sleeves  
Cut-throats and thieves  
They are not  
Welcome here  
We should make them  
Go back from where they came from  
They cannot  
Share our food  
Share our homes  
Share our countries  
Instead let us  
Build a wall to keep them out  
It is not OK to say  
These people are just like us  
A place should only belong to those who are born there  
Do not be so stupid to think that  
The world can be viewed another way.

Now read this poem from bottom to top  
It may change your perspective.

## Get up and try again

To succeed in life you need 2 things:

1. The right people. Sometimes the first step towards getting out of discouragement is finding somebody who can lift you.

When you spend time with someone who is continually negative and full of despair about their life, you can come out of that conversation feeling negative and full of despair at your life too. The company you keep will either lift you up or pull you down.

2. The right perspective Over half of all salespeople fail because they don't go back a second or third time. About 58% make one call and stop, 25% make two calls and stop. 15% make three calls and stop. The 12% who go back again and again and again make 80% of all sales. That's the group you belong to, don't settle for failure get up and try again.

**Remember this:** you're not a failure when your down, you are only a failure if you refuse to get up. When life kicks you, let it kick you forward, refuse to accept defeat. Remember you will be rewarded for what you have finished, not for what you started. That strength to keep persevering until you win.

# Will you be on the new Electoral Roll?

**E**VERY six years the Church of England draws up a brand new Electoral Roll for each Parish Church . This year, 2019, is the time to do that for the 2019 -2026 period. The old 2013-2019 Rolls for all three Churches in the Church Family (Plurality) will be deleted / scrapped / expunged / blotted out / erased (choose you favourite adjective!) and we will start with new blank sheets of paper to create three new Electoral Rolls, one for each of the three Churches.

Important note: Someone who was on an old Roll will not automatically go on the New Roll; we need you to take an active step and apply to join the New Roll using one of the appropriate application forms that are available in the three Churches.

Being on the Church Electoral Roll is very important as it enables you to take a full part in the life of your Parish Church . Also the number of names on the Roll determines how many Representatives the Parish can elect onto the Deanery Synod, how many Reps the Deanery can elect onto the Diocesan Synod, and how many Reps the Diocese can elect onto the Church of England's (national) General Synod.

Make sure you are on the new Church Electoral Roll!

**Bob Ardley, Stainton Electoral Roll Officer**

---

## Reduce your debt

(The borrower is a servant to the lender)

**A**LBERT Einstein believed the rule of 72 (the compounding of interest) was a more important discovery than his theory of relativity.

Here's the rule: divide 72 by the interest rate of your savings to discover the number of years in which your savings will double. For instance, one thousand pounds saved at 6% annual interest becomes two thousand pounds in 12 years. But credit card issuers also know the rule of 72. For example if you make a £1,000 purchase on your credit card at 18% interest and don't pay it off that balance becomes £2,000 in just 4 years. Instead of earning you money your £1,000 is earning huge profits for the credit card company.

The bible says, "Just as the rich rule the poor so the borrower is servant to the lender." Have we any idea how many marriages are in trouble, or how many people are on medication because they are drowning in debt? God doesn't want you to live that way. "When God made the world he established this rule;- "while the earth remains, seedtime and harvest shall not cease. If you want a harvest when you need it you must sow When you sow a single tomato seed you get many more back in return. So reduce you debt and be a good steward of the funds God entrusted to you. Then you can stand on this promise: "My god shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:19)

**David Gatenby**

# A Tale of True Love for St. Valentine's Day

"Newspaper Fred?" The man behind the counter watched as the old man came through the door.

"Yes please and a bag of those herbal sweets." Fred was looking a bit anxious.

"How's your hand doing?" The shopkeeper asked.

"I'm just going to have the stitches out." Fred handed across a five pound note.

"You still haven't said how you did it." The shopkeeper went to the till.

"Stupid really," Fred answered. "The grass was getting a bit long so I decided to cut it. My son John usually does it but he's been working all hours lately so I thought I would do it instead, for my wife Alice. I always remember the day we first saw the house she said, 'it's lovely Fred, I can just see the children playing on that lawn but you must keep the grass short. It soon gets overgrown you know.' We didn't even have any children then, but, well I've never let it get too long since. Alice wouldn't like it. Anyway I got John's mower out and forgot it was a rotor so of course when it jammed, I put my hand under it. Still I was lucky really, it was only a cut," the old man chuckled, "now I know how the grass feels."

As Fred left the shop he saw his bus leave the stop. "Oh no, it's early again," and looked at his watch to see how long he'd need to wait for the next one.

"Sorry Mr. Peters, You've missed your appointment but if you'll wait we'll try to fit you in a bit later. It was quite an important appointment you know. Those stitches mustn't be left in too long; they can cause a lot of problems if they're left in too long.

"How long"? Fred had that flustered look again. "Please, I'm in a hurry, I've got to."

"Sorry you should have thought of that earlier, before you were late." A haughty look followed this latest telling off.

Fred went over to one of the chairs in the waiting area; a tear was edging itself from an eye. He sat down despondent.

It was just then a door opened, Fred looked round. The nurse came out of the cubicle.

"Oh Fred" I've been waiting for you, come in," she gave a smile.

"Sorry, everything is going wrong this morning." Fred gave a slight if embarrassed smile. It was later; the last stitch had just been removed. "Tell me," the nurse asked, "What's your hurry, you seem quite flustered?"

"I always go to visit Alice, my wife; she's in the nursing home. We always have breakfast together then I read some of the newspaper to her. She can't read any more and she always likes to keep up with the news."

"What's wrong with her? Is she blind or something?" The nurse was puzzled.

"Oh no, it's nothing like that." Fred looked at her, a straight look. "She's got Alzheimer's."

"Oh, I'm sorry Fred. I didn't know." The sorrow showed across the nurse's face. "My Dad" She stopped herself. "At least she still recognises you."

"Oh no." Fred interrupted. "She can't recognise me, she hasn't done for five years now but I recognise her!"

Have you thought, God must be very much like Fred? Fred is always there for his wife though she fails to recognise him. How many times do we fail to recognise God? But God never fails to recognise us and just like Fred is always there for his wife, God is always there for us.

**David Gatenby**

# Schedules and Rotas for February 2019 St. Margaret's, Brookfield

## Sidepersons

- 3 Joint service with Hilton
- 10 Sheila & Victor Spence
- 17 Kath & Jamie Webb
- 24 Florence & Ray Harris

## Lectors

- 3 Joint service with Hilton
- 10 Victor Spence
- 17 Ray Harris
- 24 Betty Spragg

## Offertory

- 3 Joint service with Hilton
- 10 Flower Guild
- 17 Mary Sykes

- 24 Mothers' Union

## Flower Donors

- 3 Harry Norris
- 10 Janet Henwood
- 17
- 24

## Sunday Morning Coffee Rota

- 3 Joint service with Hilton
- 10 Margaret Andrew & Olwyn Hopkins
- 17 Linda Nixon & Margaret Routledge
- 24 Cynthia Eyre & Win Hall



## 100 club winners November 2018

W/E 4th	(172) Mrs. A Wills	(6) Miss M Rhodes	(76) Mrs P Kirton
W/E 11th	(83) Mrs J Hoggart	(53) Miss N Green	(171) Mr A King
W/E 18th	(23) Mrs L Wright	(37) Mrs E Burnell	(143) Mrs J Granville
W/E 25th	(17) Mr L Brighty	(77) Mrs L Nixon	(9) Miss S Rowel

## 100 club winners December 2018

W/E 2nd	(100) Mrs. V Harris	(114) Mrs. B Ely	(85) Mrs. M Bell
W/E 9th	(77) Mrs. L Nixon	(8) Mrs. F Andrew	(46) Mrs. J Henwood
W/E 16th	(104) Mrs. L Jackson	(84) Susan Hopkins	(35) Mrs. Newbury
W/E 23rd	(16) Mrs. W Hall	(142) Mr. M Granville	(118) Mr. P Herbert
W/E 30th	(99) Mrs. V Hatton	(46) Mrs. J Henwood	(140) Mrs. K Smailes

# Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

## BROOKFIELD BRANCH

We meet on the second Tuesday each month at 2pm at St Margaret's Church Hall.

We cancelled our December meeting and joined with Stainton branch for an Advent devotion led by the vicar.

This was a good start to Advent, and a build-up to Christmas, and was followed by a faith supper, and enjoying good company, as usual.

In January, we enjoyed an afternoon tea at Burlam Rd. tea rooms.

At the moment, we are planning the programme for 2019.

**Branch Leader: Florence Harris (Tel: 01642 594272)**

---

## STAINTON BRANCH

We meet on the third Monday each month at 7pm in the Parish Room of St Peter & St Paul Church, Stainton.

Our Mothers' Union theme for 2019 is, "Listen, Observe, Act ... in Step With God"

We started the New Year with our AGM, election of Officers and looking back over the last year.

February 7th-14th is National Marriage Week, also February 28th-March 12th is Fair Trade Fortnight, please think carefully at what we can buy during that time.

Our speaker at the February meeting on Monday the 18th is Joan Mason, who is always informative and interesting, all are welcome to come along and hear what she has to say.

Forthcoming events to note for early March are,  
1st March World Day of Pray, 6th March  
Branch leader: Judith Clare (Tel: 01642 592186)

**Branch leader: Judith Clare (Tel: 01642 592186)**

# Funny Stories

A kindergarten teacher was observing her class of children while they were drawing. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied "I'm drawing God".

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like".

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied  
"They will in a minute".

*A teacher asked her Sunday school group to draw pictures of their favourite Bible stories. She was puzzled by Patsy's picture, which showed four people on an airplane, so she asked her which story it was meant to represent.*

*"The flight to Egypt," said Patsy.*

*"I see ... And that must be Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus," the teacher said.*

*"But who's the fourth person?"*

*"Oh, that's Pontius-the Pilot".*

During a visit to my doctor, I asked him, "How do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in an old age home?"

"Well," he said "we fill up a bathtub, and then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the person to empty the bathtub".

"Oh, I understand," I said. "A normal person would use the bucket, because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No" he said "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?"

## Drop In

The Drop In at St Margaret's Church, Brookfield, is every Thursday afternoon from 2pm till 4pm.

Since we started last October we have seen a steady stream of people wanting to come and chat over a cup of tea or coffee.

People stay for as long as they wish (refills are plenty!)

It is a chance to meet people and make new friends.

It is very friendly and informal.

We also have a book exchange which is proving very popular.

Thanks to everyone who has provided books for us along with all the volunteers.

Unwanted books are taken to a charity shop for other people to enjoy.

Please pass the word to friends and neighbours as we would love to welcome more people.

Stainton Parish Church have their Drop In on a Tuesday afternoon from 2pm till 4pm. All very welcome.

**Janet Granville**

# SHARING WITH A WORLD IN NEED

The cash collected for our charity from St Margaret's Service on the last Sunday in November went to:



We raised a total of £81.00



USPG – United Society Partners in the Gospel – is an Anglican mission agency supporting churches around the world in their mission to bring fullness of life to the communities they serve.

Theologically, practically and financially, they encourage and enable churches within the Anglican Communion to act as the hands and feet of Christ.

Together, they are working to improve health, tackle poverty, put children in school, challenge discrimination, nurture leaders, give a voice to women, and much more.

They were founded in 1701 by the Revd. Thomas Bray, who also founded SPCK (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge)

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



**The  
Children's  
Society**

### **Christingle Service**

On Sunday 9th December 2018 at St. Margaret's, we enjoyed our annual Christingle service in aid of The Children's Society. Nearly 200 children and adults attended to receive their Christingles and sing carols. It was a very happy occasion. We were assisted by Acklam Whin School Choir and staff members.

Our thanks go to the Co-operative store on the Oval, for donating nearly 100 oranges which enabled more money to be given to The Children's Society.

Many thanks to all the willing helpers who made up the oranges with the fruit and sweets and also the helpers at the service. We raised the magnificent sum of £303.50 pence for the work of The Children's Society – Thank you to all who helped raise this money.

God Bless you all

**Margaret Routledge**



## **Middlesbrough Foodbank relies on your goodwill and support**

### **URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS:-**

- UHT/Powdered milk
- Long-life fruit juice/cordial
- Sponge Puddings
- Coffee
- Rice Pudding
- Packet Mash or Tinned Potatoes
- Tinned Carrots, Sweetcorn, Mixed Vegetables
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Meat (Ham, Spam, Corned Beef, Hotdogs, Pies, Stews and Curries.

# St. Margaret's Church Centre User Groups

**For letting enquiries contact the Church Office on 01642 597454  
or email: [letting@stmargaretsbrookfield.org.uk](mailto:letting@stmargaretsbrookfield.org.uk)**

<b>Group Name</b>	<b>Meeting times</b>	<b>Leader/contact</b>
Brookfield Toddlers	9:30am to 11:30am Mondays	Val Thompson 01642 821068 during term times
Elderberry Ladies Ballet	1.00pm to 2.00pm Mondays	Maggie Lawrance 07956816956
Yoga	6.30pm-8.00pm Mondays	Emma Lawrence 07944 593441
Tai Chi	10:45am Tuesdays	Pam Hedge 01642 532800
Weight Watchers	5.30pm-6.30pm Tuesdays	Dawn Stanway 07767 454707
The Wine Club	7:30pm on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays monthly	Val Harris 01642 592079
Mothers' Union Branch	2.00pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month	Florence Harris 01642 594272
St Margaret's Carpet Bowls Club	1.15pm-3:15pm Wednesdays	Ann Stones 01642 593960
Brookfield Ladies	7:30pm 1st Wednesday each month	Jean Kiddell 01642 761418
The Art Group	10.00am-1pm Thursdays	Ray Harris 01642 594272
Pilates	6.00pm-7.00pm Thursdays	Christine Johnson 07999384668
Line Dancing	7:30pm-9:30pm Thursdays	Judy Cook 01642 290487
Keep Fit	10.00am -11:30am Fridays	Brenda Hockney 01642 487703

## Ward Councillors for all 3 Parishes

### Stainton and Thornton Ward

David P Coupe Con. [David.Coupe@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:David.Coupe@middlesbrough.gov.uk)

### Stockton Council Hilton is in Ingleby Barwick East Ward

Gillian Corr IBIS . . . . . 01642 764056

Kevin Faulks IBIS . . . . . 01642 764874

Sally Ann Watson Con. . . . . 0779 5012445

### Kader (Brookfield) Ward

Ronald Arundale Con. . . . . 01642 288504

Jordan Blyth Lab. . . . . 07818857783

### Trimdon Ward

Dennis McCabe Ind. . . . . 07847305660

Jean Sharrocks Lab. . . . . 01642 591335



# TODDLER GROUP

**9:30am to 11:30am Mondays\***  
**At St Margaret's Church Hall**  
**The Oval, Brookfield**

**£1/first child & 50p/extra child**  
**(Includes hot drink & juice)**

**NO CHARGE FOR ADULTS!**

**\*TERM TIME ONLY**

# THE OVAL PHARMACY

Your local independent chemist

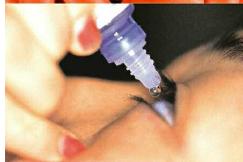


**FREE...** Collection & delivery

**FREE...** Healthcare Advice

**FREE...** NHS Services

**FREE...** Private Consultations



**5 Centre Court, The Oval, Brookfield. TS5 8HP**

**Tel 01642 284087**

**Open Mon - Fri 9am to 6pm, Sat 9am to 1pm, Closed Sunday**