

**inter**  
**MISSION**  
**PRUDHOE METHODIST CHURCH**

**SUMMER EDITION**  
July – August 2022



"He made their glowing colours" - Monarch butterfly  
acknowledgement Peter Eeles. More at [ukbutterflies.co.uk](http://ukbutterflies.co.uk)

## HOLIDAY CLUB 2022

Please see back cover and p 10

We are running our popular Holiday Club "Pyramid Rock" from 25th to 29th July. We are still looking for further volunteers. This year will feature the stories of Joseph and illustrate that God is faithful and loving.

If you feel you would like to take part this year then please fill in our online form to register your interest. <https://forms.gle/yZ8xnw6YhaZRZrt6>.

The Holiday Club is free to attend and funded from reserves and by a group of sponsors who meet the costs of the club. The Club will run in our church, St Mary Magdalene Parish Hall and The Gate Church and Stocksfield Baptist Church will again be helping.

If you would like to meet the costs of a child to attend the Holiday Club and so keep the Holiday Club free to all then our "Sponsor a Child" our main source of funding is for you. Forecasted costs £20.00 per child per week.

Please see Peter Chapman with any donations.

## PMC Services

Sun 03 July

Ian Warburton

Sun 10 July

Jack Macadam

Sun 17 July

Tony Buglass

Sun 24 July

Tony Buglass HC  
at Stocksfield

Sun 31 July

Tony Buglass HC

Sun 07 Aug

Ian Warburton

Sun 14 Aug

Bob McAlpin

Sun 21 Aug

Gareth Sherwood

Sun 28 Aug

Local Arrangement

For full circuit plan

[https://](https://www.tynedalemethcircuit.org/plan.html)

[www.tynedalemethcircuit.org/plan.html](https://www.tynedalemethcircuit.org/plan.html)

## EVENTS

### Music by the River

Sat 16 July from 1:00pm

**Holiday Club**  
25 -29 July (see above,  
p10 and back cover)

### Coffee mornings at PMC

10 - 11:15 am on  
Wednesday 20 July

**Bring & Buy Sale (see p11)**

### Bairns & Brews at PMC

Thursday Mornings  
(in term time) 10:00 to 11:30



*Rev Tony Buglass*

## **Tony writes ...**



I've often said that God has a funny sense of humour. Back in the 1990s, I almost became superintendent minister of the Ryton and Prudhoe Circuit. It didn't happen: the circuit invited Neil Cockling, and I went off to do my 'overseas missions' in Yorkshire. Quite a few years later I came back to Hexham in 'retirement', by which time Prudhoe was part of the same circuit, so you never had me as your superintendent but you've had me to preach

quite a few times as a supernumerary, and now for a couple of months, you've got me as your minister while Jenny gets settled into being the superintendent and we await the arrival of Fiona from South Africa.

And God grinned! Whether he was determined to let you experience me as a minister, or whether he wanted me to experience you as a church, the bits have finally fallen into place, and in July and August I will be doing pastoral visiting and preaching - and knowing you as I do from my visits over the last few years, I am looking forward to it.

You will notice I put the word 'retirement' in quotes. Technically, Methodist ministers do not 'retire'; that's a word we don't use, we talk about 'sitting down' from our years of travelling. Of course, we often find we're 'sitting down' in a driving seat - the call to preach, the gifts of ministry, the things that have driven us for the years of active ministry, they don't go away just because we're now on a pension. I felt when I 'retired' - sorry, 'sat down' - I'd been set free from the busy-ness of being a superintendent, set free from things like church councils and committees and stuff, free to do the things I really feel called to do, like preach, teach, and care for people. From 'superintendent' to 'supernumerary': not sure if that makes me some kind of 'superev', or if I need to dash into a phone box and come out wearing a cape and clerical shirt with a big S on the front!  
(continued on p4)



Actually, far from being 'super', I often feel the most important gift God gives to us is being able to be 'ordinary' - I grew up on a large council estate in North Shields, I live in an ordinary street among ordinary people, I'm a husband, dad, and grandad, I've been through the same happy times and hard times as most other people. The gift is to see God in that very special ordinary life, to follow Jesus and try to help other people follow him. I hope we'll do that together over the next few months. I'm sure it will be super!

Rev Tony Buglass

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### **WHISPERING GRASS? - Rev Rob Hawkins**

I read this...and wondered how often I miss what God is nudging me to do.

When I felt my life drifting away I heard a whisper. It was after church and I had drifted towards the lobby where folk were having coffee and cake.. There was a guy who I hadn't seen before and immediately knew that this was an answer to the prayer I had been praying. It was George's first time at church and he told me he had come with his wife. He started to show me pictures of grass cutting and said "I like it done the right way".

Now you know when people start talking about something in which you have absolutely no interest and you can see your life drifting away during the conversation ... that was how I was beginning to feel as he showed me picture after picture of grass! However I heard a whisper which I passed on and I said to him 'I think they could use your skills here'. I introduced him to the Pastor and this non-church going guy is now cutting the church lawns and having God conversations with the Pastor. I am a church worker and yet too often I am too busy working for the risen Saviour rather than to listen to and look for the risen Saviour in an ordinary conversation about grass.

Praying you might be sensitive to God at work...even in the boring!



## REV FIONA CALVEREY



**DAVID and FIONA CALVEREY**

Greetings friends, from a chilly winter in South Africa, I am really looking forward to meeting everyone. I have had some wonderful Zoom meetings with Circuit leadership, and I have enjoyed chatting to those who were able to attend. Thank you for all the effort you are going to in preparing the manse for our arrival, it is really appreciated and I am feeling very loved and welcomed.

The journey of my call to ministry started with hospitality to others by serving tea after services in various churches. It continued with leading home groups and youth groups and then to spear-heading an Interdenominational Women's Ministry.

After completing Local Preachers training and being accepted as a Presbyter, I have experienced many different types of ministries; from African townships to Inner-city, from school chaplaincy to mega-church with 5 services a day, from Superintendent of a Circuit with two churches to Superintendent of a Circuit with 7 churches and 19 preaching places.

With all the lessons I have learned the one thing that stands out is that everyone is unique and loved by God, and together we can make a difference in our communities by using our different gifts. I have a passion for music and the arts which has found expression through poetry, contemplative prayer, worship and leading workshops and spiritual retreats.

I am looking forward to pastoring three churches and having fellowship with our church communities (like bacon rolls after church on a Communion Sunday, going for walks, braais at the manse, pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, Barn dance/ceilidh fundraisers etc.).

May God's winds of change continue to freshen our spirits.

Blessings  
Rev Fiona



## **A Story of Influence - as told by Allan Waters**

Coughs and sneezes spread diseases. When I was a young lad it seems to me that this was the mantra at home, in school and even on posters put up by the government. This has been replaced by keep your distance, wear a face mask, catch it, bin it, kill it, and sanitise. In the early stages of the Covid outbreak we were told the symptoms were “flu like” or to give it its proper name “influenza like”, and all those people who had it, caught it from someone else.

The word “influenza” comes from the Italian word that means “a flowing out of one life to another.” It doesn’t tell us anything about the illness itself only that it is catching. Nobody that I have talked to, even those with mild symptoms of Covid, has enjoyed the experience, being confined to bed for many days, much less the knowledge that so many have had to go on respirators or have succumbed to this terrible illness. No it’s not good and it’s catching and as we have been told recently Covid has not gone away. Our word “influence” comes from the same source as the Italian word because it flows out of one person to another; influence however can be good as well as bad.

The story is told of a young boy, just after the end of the Second World War, called Jonny who was eleven. He was leaving the Primary School with a bad attendance record. His parents were fined for his truancy on more than one occasion. When the local magistrate heard that Jonny was going to the Secondary School the next term he said that he hoped it would help Jonny not to truant again. And so it seemed. All the first term Jonny was a regular attendee. So many new things to do, visits out of school, weekly trips to the public swimming baths, experiments in the laboratory to do himself and the excitement of the woodwork and metalwork shops and the art studios, all kept him busy and happy. Then one day in the second term he forgot to do some homework and instead of coming to school and explaining to the teacher, he fell into his old ways and didn’t go to school. This continued for several days and Jonny was fed up as he had no one to play with, so one afternoon he spoke with one of his classmates called Tom and told him how much better it was in the park than in school, and how he had skipped school so many times in the past and hadn’t had to suffer for it.



So the next day Jonny had a friend with whom to help pass the time. After a week of walking about the park they got bored and played in some condemned houses. One day they found a locked cupboard and Jonny broke it open and took away scores of little toys in boxes which they had found there. As the toys were all the same they gave some away and sold others. The police noticing so many of these toys about began to inquire and so traced the toys back to Jonny. This offence "stealing by finding" brought Jonny and Tommy into court. The magistrate was disappointed that Jonny had not settled into his new school and sent him to an approved school.

Tom was put on probation and warned that he would follow Jonny if he did not improve his ways. But Tom had got a taste for adventure and continued to be troublesome. His headmaster was concerned for him and discovered that Tom had been friendly with a good lad named David before going astray with Jonny, so he asked David to win Tom's friendship back. This he did over several weeks, David invited Tom home for tea and introduced him to his pals at the youth club. Soon Tom found himself following David in all the good things that he did just as he had followed Jonny in all his bad deeds. Influence is catching, both good and bad. Many children are easily led. If they are influenced by a bad companion then this will lead them into trouble, but if they are influenced by good friends this leads to happiness.

The disciples were wise. Andrew was influenced by John the Baptist to follow Jesus. Andrew influenced his brother Peter to do the same and Philip influenced Nathanael to follow Jesus and their lives were transformed as they influenced many others. They were wise; they followed Jesus, one who was a great influence for good. If we are wise we will follow him too. When Paul wrote, "None of us lives to himself" he meant that everyone influences others for good or evil. Which sort of influence are you? If we let Christ influence us we shall influence others for good.

**Prayer;** *Thank you Lord for all who are a good influence in our lives and help us to put Jesus first in our thoughts, words and actions so that we may be a good influence to others. Amen.*



## Getting to Know you – Lynne Graham

Adapted from her President Elect Talk on 17 March at PMC

The youngest of four I was brought up on a small holding. I learnt to love nature and music. Mam played piano, I had lessons for a couple of years, and dad was a violinist. I went to Sunday school, attended a dance class and sang "Me and my teddy bear" in a Panto when aged 5. I walked "The road to the Isles" on leaving school. After 2 years in a bank, I was a Lab. technician for Newcastle University at Close House, Wylam. I met Kevin at 18 and we went to our church youth fellowship in the home of Bill and Hazel Carrick. 52 years ago, when planning engagement at 20, my boss suggested marriage as there was a vacant flat at Close House, so why wait?

We had Kay and Richard, thanking God for their safe arrival. We drifted a bit from church, but were brought back by Bill and Hazel through the drama group mostly doing Pantos. At the Billy Graham campaign in the early 80's Kay and I went forward, making a commitment to God. I became a member of this church in 1985. I started working at Prudhoe high school in the labs and stayed for over 14 years. I went to Taizé, with the maths teacher and some 6th form RE students. 7,000 young people on a French hillside with inspiring talks and wonderful singing. Brother Roger who started Taizé as a place of reconciliation, profoundly said "If our faith is as vital to us as our breath is to living, being attentive to others follows" that is, we should care for each other.

Through school I could access a sign language course so I could interpret worship songs. I joined a Christian dance group called "beyond the barricades", an inspiring, friendly mix of people. I've been to Iona on a John Bell music week, staying in the abbey singing simple harmonies. I've done Alpha, Disciple, Ignite and visited World church camp in Cambridge, Spring harvest in Skegness and Cherish in Leeds, where 7,000 ladies worshipped and listened to God's word. It was suggested that if each person there gave £1 per month for a year, 12 charities would benefit with £7,000 each. Wow!!

I sang in our choir, helped at Youth club and have been a steward. I went to Cliff College on a Walk to Emmaus weekend in November 1997. What a weekend of teaching and love. That made me rethink my working life, that I should be working with people not instruments and solutions. In 1998, I left my school job to work with people with learning difficulties then went to Hexham hospital to work in the community, following stroke victims home, for rehab. In 2005 we had the first North east Walk to Emmaus retreat at Minsteracres and they continued for 10 more years. Our Emmaus reunion group meet monthly to encourage and challenge each other.



On retirement I took up golf; Kevin's played since the 1970's, and we bought bikes. We made some good friends going for dance lessons, attending Saturday night dances and weekends away, with Blackpool being a highlight. We've had some fabulous holidays. I've prayer walked the length of the Tyne and done St.Oswald and St.Cuthberts way with lovely friends accompanying me each time.

Kevin and I visited the Epworth rectory a few years ago; the home of John and Charles Wesley, their mother Susanna. An exhibition leaflet said we should Believe the Gospel and behave it ... believe the Jesus stories and follow His example. Through MWiB I've been to Minsteracres and Swanwick retreats and heard some great speakers, meeting old & new friends. Through this church I joined the circuit band and Mike encouraged me to also join Prudhoe community band. When the circuit band finished, I joined Hexham brass. Both bands are a joy. Although not very good myself, together we make a nice sound and a privilege to play at our Sunday services.

Back to the Cherish Challenge, I'll tell you the starfish story. A man was walking on a beach that was covered with stranded starfish. There was a boy throwing them back into the sea one by one. "You're wasting your time" the man said, but the boy replied "I'm making a difference to those I can return to the sea". We all can make a difference.

Finally, I look forward to meeting more of you around the District. I'm not feeling qualified in speaking, but I know I will be enabled, equipped and encouraged to talk passionately about the charity that we will fund raise for. With God's help we can.

Your friend in Christ, Lynne

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## YOUR LETTERS



Thanks to "Recycling Rita" for her article (Pentecost 2022) about waste plastic and the need for responsible packaging by supermarkets. It made me think about glass bottles and their reuse. We can take our bottles and jars to the bottle bank, but think about all the energy wasted to melt them down and make new bottles. I can remember milk and "pop" bottles that were returned to the retailer to be washed and re-filled. And jam jars were washed and reused by Mother for her own jams. Oh, for those heady days of Jam and Jerusalem!

- "Refilling" Ronnie.

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Editor's Note: Recycling Rita reports that Dobbies Garden Centre have a collection point for recycling plant pots. 9



## **PYRAMID ROCK**

**Prudhoe & Stocksfield Churches  
warmly invite you to this FREE  
event for local children.**

At Holiday Club we find learning about Jesus REALLY fun!  
So during 'Pyramid Rock 2022' your kids can expect five,  
fabulous, fun-packed mornings of activities, including:

- Engaging Bible stories
- Energetic games
- Imaginative craft projects
- Bible Discovery adventures
- Funny dramas
- Lively songs
- Refreshments

The whole family is invited to join us on the last night for  
a celebration evening - please RSVP on the booking form.

The main Holiday Club programme is suitable for  
children aged 5-10 (school years 1-6). There is also a  
Pre-School Drop-In for children under 5 (with parents).

To book your child's place, scan the QR code or visit  
[tinyurl.com/PrudhoeStocksfieldHolidayClub](https://tinyurl.com/PrudhoeStocksfieldHolidayClub)

For more information and regular updates,  
you can find us on Facebook:

**@PrudhoeStocksfieldHolidayClub**

"Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God  
belongs to those who are like these children." - Jesus (from Luke 18, verse 16)



**Prudhoe and  
Stocksfield Churches**



## Rev Jenny

The last service Rev Jenny Porterpryde led as Minister of PMC was held on 19 June. Her sermons and prayers have meant a lot to us and this service was no exception as 28 members of the church family came to share worship and Holy Communion. Little Ellie (granddaughter of Ruth and Martyn Johnson) had a special mention from "Arnie Bird" (aka emu), with his unique 'lay' ministry, and we remembered Father's Day: that every day is Father's Day. Our senior steward, Sylvia, presented Jenny with flowers and a wallet containing several assorted vouchers for Langley Castle Hotel. Photos of the presentation can be seen on Prudhoe Methodist Church Friends Facebook. After the service everyone was provided with celebration cake and those able stayed on to have lunch together.

*On this occasion Jenny took the opportunity to welcome our new part-time pastoral support and outreach worker, **Mrs Sue Hutchinson**. Sue is starting to get to know the church family, the families at Bairns & Brews and has introduced herself at the churches together prayer meetings. We look forward to hearing more about Sue in the next edition of InterMISSION.*

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### CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

21 August **Ruby Weatherspoon** will be celebrating her 90th birthday. Congratulations and well done, Ruby. You are an inspiration to us.

Congratulations to **Doreen and Malcolm Elwell** as they celebrate 55 years of marriage on 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

Congratulations to **Sally Leat** on becoming a grandma again on 15<sup>th</sup> June.

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### CHARITY EVENT FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 20 July, 10am until 12 noon: Coffee morning with Bring & Buy Sale and cake stall. All proceeds to charity: Knitted Knockers UK. The charity provides free 100% cotton breast prostheses for women who have undergone mastectomy/lumpectomy.

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### OUR (inter) MISSION STATEMENT

- [1] To inform our local community, and ourselves, of what happens within the walls of PMC (as a building)
  - [2] To inform the same parties of our organised outreach work beyond those walls (eg Open-the-Book)
  - [3] To inform about individual work and witness by our members working with the Holy Spirit
  - [4] To outreach our fellowship to those unable or (perhaps) unwilling to worship with us.
  - [5] To spread the Good News using a fresh theme each month.
  - [6] Making disciples.
- Rev Rob Hawkins**

**PUBLICATION.** We aim to distribute new issues by the first Sunday of the month. Please send articles no later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the previous month to:  
**intermission@uwclub.net**  
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[www.prudhoemc.org](http://www.prudhoemc.org)



see p10

# PYRAMID ROCK

PRUDHOE AND  
STOCKSFIELD CHURCHES

## HOLIDAY CLUB

25 - 29 July

10:00 - 12:30

Prudhoe Methodist Church

**FREE!**



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Prudhoe and  
Stocksfield Churches