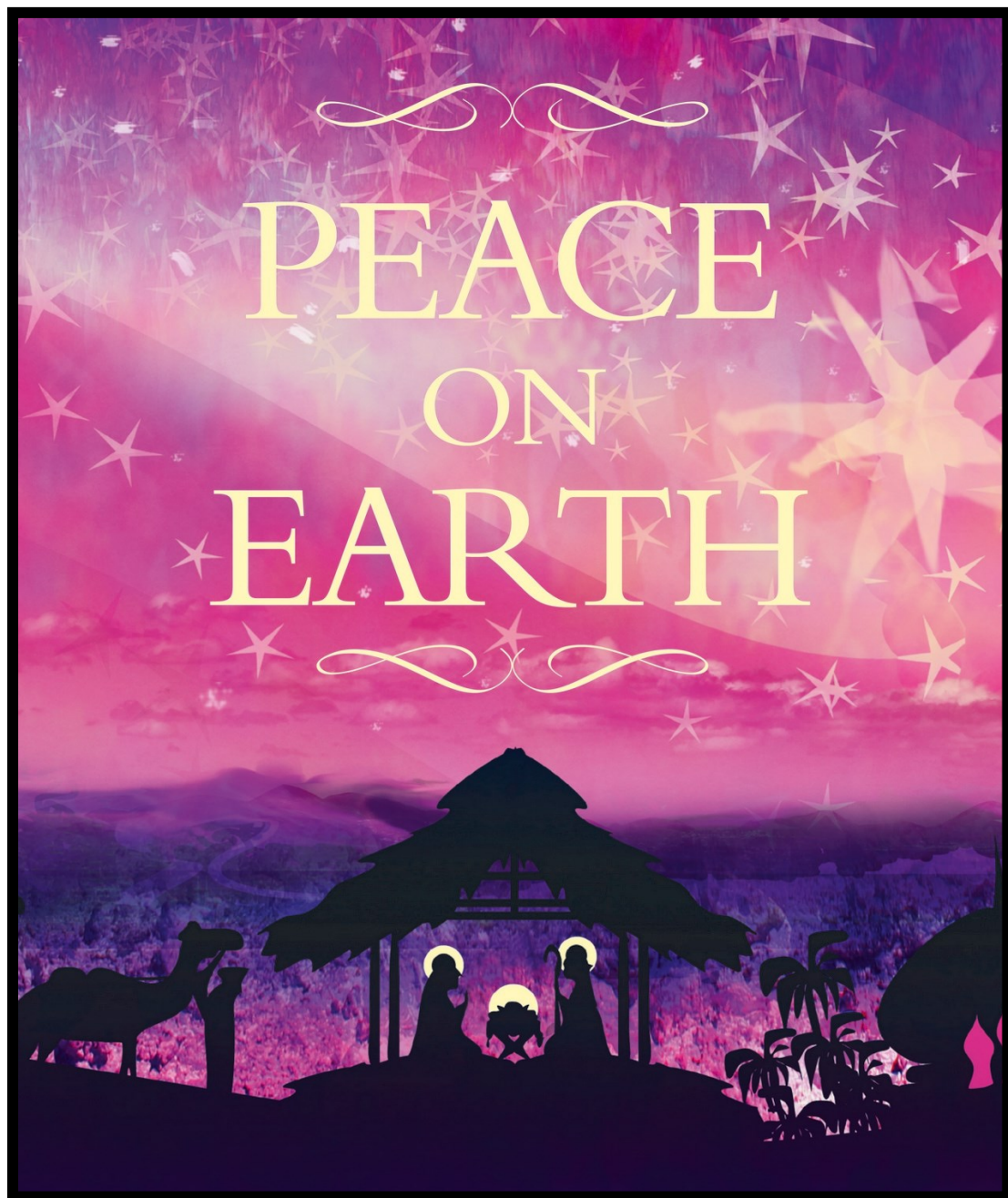


News and Views from
St Peter's Church
and
The Parish of Redcar



December 2023

PARISH CONTACTS

VICAR	Rev'd Andy Greiff	07522 445569 vicar@stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk
CHURCHWARDENS	Mr Brian Harvey Mrs Daphne Wood	07970 849004 07715 324098 wardens@stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk
READER and COMMUNITY MINISTER	Mr Steve Graham	07505275961 readers@stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk
CHILDREN and FAMILIES WORKER	Ms Claire Lingard	07904672561 claire.lingard@stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk
PCC SECRETARY	Mrs Suzanne Graham	07761 497981
TREASURER	Mrs Marion Birtwistle	07462665047
SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE	Mr Brian Harvey	07970 849004
VERGER	Mrs Sue Steele	01642 473706 07807 069795
ORGANIST	Contact the Churchwardens	
MOTHERS' UNION	Mrs Anne Hagen	01642 479755 07804 047354
PARISH MAGAZINE	Mrs D. Wood	07715 324098
e-mail	daphne.wood@stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk	01642 479672

OFFICE HOUR—the church is open between 6.00pm and 7.00pm on Thursday evenings to discuss baptisms or weddings. For funerals, please contact your funeral director.

Church email address hello@stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk

WORSHIP AT ST. PETER'S



Sundays 10.00am HOLY COMMUNION

2nd Sunday of month

10.00am ALL AGE WORSHIP—a family friendly Service with Holy Communion

1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays of month

10.00am ST PETER'S ARK—a service for children Come and learn about Jesus with us

Sunday 7.00pm NIGHT PRAYER (Compline) on Zoom (fortnightly) Meeting ID: 930 2516 0828, Password: 1234



Wednesday 9.30am HOLY COMMUNION

The last Wednesday of the month is also Mothers' Union Corporate Communion

Wednesday 6.30pm REFLECTIONS—an opportunity to reflect on the big questions of modern life in a safe, comfortable and friendly space

Thursday 9.00am MORNING PRAYER in the Lady Chapel


10.00am PRAM SERVICE—a time of worship and play for babies, toddlers and their parents, grandparents, and carers

Sunday services are live streamed and can be viewed on our YouTube channel. Prayers, reflections and notices are posted on St Peter's Facebook page.



 www.stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk

 [stpeterschurchredcar](https://www.facebook.com/stpeterschurchredcar)

 [@stpetersredcar](https://www.youtube.com/@stpetersredcar)



Advent is here! Which marks my anniversary of being at St Peters, as my first service was on an Advent Sunday. This year will be my third as I've been here two years; doesn't time fly?!

It's going to be an exciting season this year, with the Christmas Fair and grotto, Christingle and Christmas services. This year we are sharing our Church Carol Service with the Civic Carol Service, when town dignitaries, including the Mayor and Mayoress, will be joining us, as well as the choir from Ings Farm Primary School.

Wheatlands Primary School will be joining us for their Christmas service as well as Zetland Primary School who will be running an 'Experience Christmas' event.

And talking of Zetland Primary School, St Peter's is working with them in creating a Christmas Story Trail up and down the High Street in Redcar. Each school year has produced a piece of art depicting a part of the Christmas story. These pictures will be displayed in shops with a little Christmas carol quiz. Why not go into town and see if you can find them in some of the shops, (you might want to look in Pacittos, Goodswen Butchers, Footprints Café, Blink eyewear, The Clock gallery, Kidney Research, Stanway and Garnett)? Look out for the guided leaflets. The originals will be displayed in church throughout the Christmas season.

There is a sneak preview on the next page...



Can you tell which part of the story the pictures depict? I think they are absolutely amazing. Please take time to seek them out in Redcar Town Centre and at St Peters. And thanks so much to all the pupils at Zetland Primary School.

LET US ALL HAVE A VERY BLESSED ADVENT, CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR

Every Blessing, Rev'd Andy



Christmas

AT ST PETER'S CHURCH REDCAR

Saturday December 2nd 10.00am

Christmas fair and Santa's grotto

Sunday December 3rd 5.00pm

Christingle

Sunday 10th December 3.00pm

Civic Carol Service

Friday 22nd December

Outside Carols & Mulled Wine

Christmas Eve

5.00pm Kids Nativity

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 10.00am

Holy Communion



ST PETER'S CHRISTMAS FAIR

IN AID OF CHURCH FUNDS

SATURDAY, 2ND DECEMBER

10.00AM TO 1.00PM

SEE OUR AMAZING CHRISTMAS GROTTO AND MEET
FATHER CHRISTMAS!

REFRESHMENTS AND STALLS

GRAND CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

FIRST PRIZE—BUMPER CHRISTMAS HAMPER

PLUS MANY OTHER PRIZES OF HAMPERS AND VOUCHERS

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THE LOCAL REDCAR
BUSINESSES WHO DONATED RAFFLE PRIZES

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Sunday, 3rd December 2023 at 5.00pm

Raising funds for the Children's Society



LECTIONARY DECEMBER 2023

Sunday 3rd December

Isaiah 64.1-9
Psalm 80.1-8,18-20*
1 Corinthians 1.3-9
Mark 13.24-37

1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday 10th December

Isaiah 40.1-11
Psalm 85.1-2,8-13*
2 Peter 3.8-15a
Mark 1.1-8

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday 17th December

Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11
Psalm 126 or Canticle: Magnificat
1 Thessalonians 5.16-24
John 1.6-8,19-28

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday 24th December

2 Samuel 7.1-5,8-11,16
Psalm 89.2,19-27
Acts 13.16-26
Luke 1.67-79

Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve

Monday 25th December

I
Isaiah 9.2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2.11-14
Luke 2.1-14[15-20]

Christmas Day

II
Isaiah 62.6-12
Psalm 97
Titus 3.4-7
Luke 2.[1-7]8-20

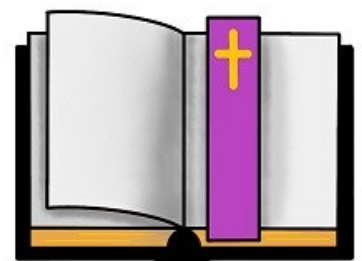
III

Isaiah 52.7-10
Psalm 98
Hebrews 1.1-4[5-12]
John 1.1-14

Sunday 31st December

Isaiah 61.10-62.3
Psalm 148 (or 148.7—end)
Galatians 4.4-7
Luke 2.15-21

First Sunday of Christmas



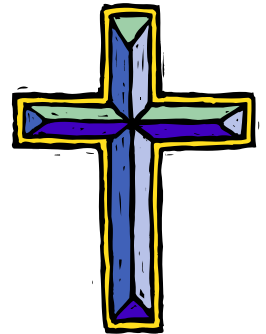
FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

In Loving Memory

Funerals held in November

20th November Joan Polson

28th November Alan Carr



We pray for their family and friends

Christmas Prayer 2023

Almighty Father,

Thank you for your indescribable gift of Jesus – the Light of the world. Thank you that He brought light and life to all who received Him during His life on earth and that He still brings light and life to all who receive Him.

Lord, how this broken world needs your light today. As we rejoice and give thanks for Christmas, we pray that the light of Jesus will pierce the darkness of self-interest and hatred - and change the hearts of those who do not love you or their neighbours.

We pray that by the power of your Holy Spirit you will deliver your people from evil, and that Your kingdom will come on earth as in heaven. Thank you, Father, that because of Jesus, light will always shine in the darkness and the darkness will never be able to extinguish it.

Glory and thanks and praise to You Father God, this Christmas and always.

In Jesus' saving and powerful name.

Amen.

By Daphne Kitching, taken from The Parish Pump

THE MIDDLETON CHOIR

*Invite you to a
CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS*

*In words and music
Choir, Solos, Readings
and lots of carols for you to sing*



ON WEDNESDAY, 13TH DECEMBER

AT 7.00PM

AT ST PETER'S CHURCH, REDCAR LANE TS10 3JL

Admission £7.00

(includes seasonal refreshments)

*Tickets from members of the choir,
ring 01642 648594, or pay at the door*

As we head into Advent a time of reflexion and waiting, I can't help but think about the nativity story and the message that it gives to us. I wonder if you knew the



**Just A
Thought?**

following about the manger that Jesus was laid in? Most people know mangers are animal feeding troughs, but in ancient Israel they were made of stone - not what we would expect to see in a nativity scene. It would not have been comfortable, but great for protection.

That's why those who were experts in this matter, the priests, would put their newborn lambs in them for protection. But not just any lamb, the unblemished perfect lambs that were used in the sacrifice for sins. And Bethlehem, where Jesus was born was FAMOUS for their UNBLEMISHED LAMBS used for the sacrifice. These lambs had to be perfect so they would wrap them tightly in cloth and lie them in the manger to keep them safe.

This is exactly why the only time mangers are mentioned in Jesus' birth story it is being told to shepherds. In Luke 2 it says "This will be a sign for you, you will find a baby wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger." The shepherds would have understood this powerful parallel! THEY KNEW what the cloth and the manger meant! This baby would be THE PERFECT LAMB OF GOD! The Messiah who would sacrifice His life for the sins of the whole world.

He wasn't just a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger, He was GOD: perfect, sinless and Holy, humbling Himself to become the perfect sacrifice to reconcile us back to Himself!! THAT my friend, that Perfect Lamb, is WHY we celebrate Christmas!!

Blessings, Claire

Our DIARY for December

Tuesday, 5th December 2.00pm Branch Meeting - we meet in the Lady Chapel for our ADVENT REFLECTION led by Rev Elaine, followed by fellowship and a cute Christmas craft from Joyce Hogg

Monday, 18th December 7.30pm EMUs Christmas Cheer!

Wednesday, 27th December 9.30am Corporate Communion

Hi everyone!

I'm sure this won't be a shock to you but December is such a busy month! World Aids Day; Christingles; Fairs; parties Carol services, nativities, school holidays and **CHRISTMAS!**

Indeed, as I write we have already entered the period of 26th November to 10th December, which is designated by the United Nations as

16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence

and for the past ten years Mothers' Union has campaigned in support of this through their **#Nomore1in3** initiative.



With close to three and a half MILLION members worldwide,

as a Christian movement, as members, we play a unique role in helping to overcome this across the world. Women and girls face many injustices and at the World Council in Kigali in 2019, while discussing transformation of lives, they affirmed three main goals for the future

- **To transform lives by creating an environment that is peaceful and safe for all**
- **Where livelihoods are secure**
- **And where gender justice is a reality**

RISE UP Against Domestic Abuse is Mothers' Union's new campaign to raise awareness about domestic abuse. Our aim is to make sure that activism against domestic abuse and gender-based violence happens 365 days a year and not just during the 16 Days of Activism campaign in November and December.

The letters of **RISE UP** stand for

Respond,

Inform,

Support,

Empower,

Unite

Pray



Domestic abuse can happen to anyone from any walk of life. It isn't just unemployed, single parents who suffer from abuse. It is the educated, the affluent, both women **and men**. It can happen to anyone. Abuse can and does happen anywhere. Unfortunately some people hide behind miscommunicated Bible passages to justify their actions or feel like they should stay with an abusive partner. We want to raise awareness that this not OK.

MU branches are tasked with ensuring their church has information about the

National Domestic Abuse Helpline : 0808 2000 247 and

a local Domestic Abuse Helpline: 01642 490677 (EVA Women's Aid)

and in our branch we have decided to collaborate with EVA to find ways to help.

Val Brennan is being our Lead in this. It is also through prayer that we seek to bring into focus God's continuing love as we work together as the hands and feet of Christ. To find out more, please visit: www.mothersunion.org

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas, Anne

We meet together again, after Christmas on Tuesday, 2nd January 2024

Rev'd Elaine writes...

I wonder if you've ever had a moment where you've just watched the news or read the paper and seen what's going on in the Middle East or somewhere else in the world and felt the absence of anything hopeful. The sense that things are going to improve and get better. I think we all as humans have that underlying need to have hope.

If you search for songs with a theme of Hope within them the list is a lot longer than you might expect. It seems to be something that a lot of us need. Emelie Sandé sings 'I just hope I'm not the only one', Jack Jackson sings 'you better hope you're not alone'.

It's said that the antidote to any despair might be hope, experts say. It's one of the most powerful—and essential—human mindsets, and possible to achieve even when it feels out of reach.

"Hope is a way of thinking," says Chan Hellman, a psychologist who's the founding director of the Hope Research Centre at the University of Oklahoma. "We know it can be taught; we know it can be nurtured. It's not something you either have or don't have."

As we begin our journey through Advent this year with the prospect of Christmas fast approaching, I wonder if we need to be reminded that the hope that God, our Heavenly Father offers us is much more robust and rooted in the reality that he came in human form as a vulnerable baby to bring.

As we enjoy time catching up with friends and family over the next few weeks and the Christmas period itself, let us take the opportunity to be thankful that we live in peace in comparison to others across the world and don't often fear for our safety. Let's take the opportunity to be generous with what we have so that those in more vulnerable situations, whether financially or otherwise might find hope as they move forward.

As we meet in church week by week during Advent, we will be praying for the hope of the Christ child to stir in our hearts and remind us that we are not alone. We draw strength from knowing the buck doesn't stop with us, but that we should all take responsibility for our part in making our community a more hope filled place.

Every Blessing for
Christmas and the New
Year, Elaine



**YOU ARE INVITED TO
ST PETER'S CHURCH
CHRISTMAS PARTY ON**

SATURDAY, 16th DECEMBER AT 6.00pm

Bring a plate of food to share

**Sign up sheet is at
the back of church**

**Be prepared to do a
'turn' to entertain us!**



WHAT IS CHRISTMAS?

Is it just a day at the end of the year,
A holiday filled with merry good cheer?
A season for presents both taking and giving,
A time to indulge in the pleasures of living
Are we lost in a meaningless much muddled daze
That covers our minds like a grey autumn haze
Have we closed our hearts to God and his love
And turned our eyes from the bright star above
Dear Father in Heaven renew and restore
The real true meaning of Christmas once more
So we can feel in our hearts once again that
Peace on Earth, Goodwill to all Men
Is still a promise that man can claim
If he but seeks it in Thy Name.



Ladies' Wednesday Group

Our final church meeting was a most enjoyable evening with Marske Fisherman's Choir. The concert was well attended, with the audience often singing along to the sea shanties and other songs they sang. We will be having a Christmas Dinner at the Cleveland Club on Wednesday, 6th December.

We originally formed as a Young Wives' Group in 1963, but as we all grew a bit older we changed our name to the Ladies' Wednesday Group. I became Leader in 1985.

We have enjoyed listening to many interesting Speakers on a variety of subjects and have visited many theatre productions, held concerts, had outings and done walks to various destinations, making many happy memories. The Christmas Dinner will be our final meeting.

I would like to thank all the volunteers at church over the years for being so accommodating in opening and closing the church at many different times .

As this will be my last magazine entry as Leader of the Wednesday Ladies' Group I would like to thank all the members of the committee for their hard work and commitment over the years and wish all members a

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Dorothy Falconer

St Peter's Ladies' Wednesday Group

A Word of Thanks and Appreciation

I'm sure every member of our St Peter's family will join me in thanking the members of the Ladies' Wednesday Group for all they have done for the church over the years—60 years, Ladies—that's an amazing achievement!

From the cake stalls to the penny collections, the group has been a stalwart supporter of everything we do at St Peter's , and we wish them all well in their 'retirement'.

Daphne Wood

EAST REDCAR RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

East Redcar Residents Association will be meeting on Thursday 7th December 2023 at 7.00pm in the Meeting Room at St Peters Church.

If you wish any Community Issues to be discussed please email michaelcarling@btinternet.com.

The Friends of Borough Park will commence holding the Community Coffee Mornings on Wednesday ,17th January 2024 10.00am to 12noon at the Borough Park Bowling Club, continuing every Wednesday until the end of March.

Mike Carling



ST PETER'S 100 CLUB

The result of the November 2023 draw was:

No. 40 Joan Ludlow £40

No. 53 Anne Houchen £10



AUTUMN

Autumn is when we hold our harvest festivals, thanking God for his provision and share what we have with those less fortunate than ourselves. Autumn for me, really is an annual reminder to stop and appreciate the beauty and wonder of our world. Each year God gives us this wonderful display of his artistry, through all of the wonderful rich red, orange and golden hues of the leaves. God reminds us of the awesome miracle of creation demonstrated through this beautiful transition from summer to winter.

I love to see children enjoying scrunching in the leaves and collecting conkers, just as I did as a child. Autumn is a time where I get to enjoy more rest. I must admit I love it when the days become shorter and the long dark evenings arrive. It is great to be able to settle down for the evening a little earlier than before, drawing the curtains and getting comfy on the sofa is such a treat.

As the weather gets colder, I love to be snuggled up in a big jumper or fleece blanket and enjoy a good movie or book. It is also the time of year when we begin to eat all that lovely warm comfort food, stew and dumplings, soups and jacket potatoes are among my favourites.

There is something very humbling about being well fed, warm and comfortable; it is a luxury that unfortunately is not shared by everyone. I feel blessed to come a church full of big-hearted Christians where the Food Bank and community outreach is such a priority.

What a blessing to have such a loving Father and to be around other Christians who are focused on sharing their blessings with those less fortunate too. God wants to provide us with his mercy and comfort, check it in 2 Corinthians 1:3, I am thankful to God for autumn and all it brings.

What are you thankful for at this time of year?

Blessings, Claire



FRIENDS
OF
REDCAR
CEMETERY

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF REDCAR CEMETERY

This is a busy time for the Friends; we have been tidying up the cemetery so we can leave it over Christmas knowing it is as good as it can be for the many visitors who come at this special time. We are holding our Christmas tombola in Morrison's on Friday 1st December; thanks to Caryn and the staff for having us. There are no problems filling the rota as everyone loves being there; it is so busy and the time just flies. We often meet our supporters and catch up with them. Hope to see you there as we have so many lovely prizes.



At our last meeting at the end of November we will be planning the Carol Service. We are half way there as the Bowling Club is booked for Sunday 17th December. We will be singing at 3.00pm round our Christmas tree. Revd Andy has agreed to lead the service. The invitations have been funded by Michelle from Roseberry Funerals and she is kindly bringing baubles for a donation and the money will be given to the Friends. Message tags will be available for you to write a message; these will be blessed when they are on the tree.

We are having the gates taken off and refurbished and they will be returned for Christmas. Wendy and Oksarna are making wreaths for the pedestrian gates as a welcome. Claire, Kelly and the Pay Back men are making 3 wreaths for the baby areas, thanks to all.

We do have our disappointments and joys like everyone. We were unsuccessful with the funding bid to the Gas Hydrogen company; however, the good news is we are getting our request for a much needed trolley to help us take bags of leaves, tools and rubbish around the cemetery as it is a vast area of 25 acres. The other part of the good news is that their staff are going to work with us in the cemetery. This is like gold to us as chances are they are much younger than us (let's face it, everyone is these days).

We will soon be looking forward to the New Year as it will be our 20th year of working and caring for this special place.

Dot Ahmed





Christmas Shopping

It was Christmas and the judge was in a benign mood as he asked the prisoner what he was charged with. “Doing my Christmas shopping early,” replied the man.

“Why, that’s no offence,” said the judge. “How early were you doing it?”

“Before the store opened,” replied the defendant.

What do you get Dad?

December is the month when the family begins to discuss what to get Dad for Christmas. Some argue for a shirt; others hold out for a pair of socks.

But the argument usually ends in a tie.

Santa

What do you call Santa’s helpers? - Subordinate Clauses.

Snowman

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? - Frostbite.

Turkey

He ate so much over the holidays that he decided to quit cold turkey.

Red and White

What's red and white, red and white, and red and white?

Father Christmas rolling down a hill.

Taken from The Parish Pump

Chris Bowers writes....

Lorraine and I were at Whitby recently and saw this rainbow.

The old folk tale is that at the end of a rainbow you will find a pot of gold.

Whitby Abbey is at the end of this one.

Real treasure!!!



‘Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.’

Matthew 6:19 - 20



Stanway & Garnett Funeral Directors

Taking the greatest care in and around Redcar

Funerals from
£975

Funerals

Prepaid Funeral Plans

Memorials



We are here for you anytime.

Whatever your wishes or budget, we can provide a funeral to suit you.

114 High Street
Redcar
01642 477257

dignityfunerals.co.uk/local



We're proud to be a Dignity Funeral Director,
providing exceptional services to families across the UK.

Pricing is correct at time of going to print and is subject to change. Price stated is for an Unattended Funeral.

★★★★★
Customer rated
Powered by Yext.

ELAINE'S FLORISTS

FLOWERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS



REDCAR'S MOST
POPULAR FLORISTS



Quality Flowers and Plants
For All Occasions
Funeral Tribute, Baskets, Bouquets
Weddings, Church Flowers etc.
All Sundries for the Flower Arranger

Delivery Service Throughout the Area
Our Aim is to Please

66 Station Road Redcar

Tel: 01642 474030



Geoff Usher

ALL TYPES OF JOINERY WORK

FREE ESTIMATES

5 CHESTER ROAD

REDCAR

TS10 3PU

TEL. 01642 480554



PALSEC

KEY-CUTTING &
ENGRAVING

Most Keys cut including
Vauxhall & Volvo Laser Types

UPvc & Aluminium Door Keys

Computer Engraving Services

Trophy Plates, Name Badges & Signs

36a Station Road, Redcar

www.palsec.co.uk



Tel: 01642
472814



TO ADVERTISE
YOUR BUSINESS IN
ST PETER'S
PARISH MAGAZINE
PLEASE CONTACT
THE CHURCH WARDENS



J.P. Bragg Electrics

House Rewires - Electric Showers Fitted—Fault Finding
Extra Lights & Sockets—Night Storage Heaters
Domestic & Commercial - Free Estimates
All work Guaranteed — Competitive Prices
For Further Details Contact:- 01642 475051



CLAXTON HOTEL

With 35 en-suite bedrooms,
we offer Deluxe
Accommodation,
some rooms offering
Magnificent Sea Views

A Friendly Family Run

Business since 1975

Proprietor: Dawn Smith

194-196 High Street, Redcar
TS10 3AW

Tel: 01642 486745

email: info@claxtonhotel.co.uk
www.claxtonhotel.co.uk



Specialists in all aspects of Plumbing and Heating. Our services include boiler installations, replacements, central heating servicing, repairs and installations, power flushing, landlords gas certification. Domestic and Commercial.

All plumbing works. We provide a quality service at competitive prices. Our engineers are reliable, experienced, trustworthy and trained and qualified in Gas, Oil, LPG, Warm air, under floor heating and renewable energy sources.

Tel: 01642 487309
www.cawheating.co.uk



Unit C Limerick Road,
Dormanstown,
Redcar TS10 5JU



Registered
Business



E.L. DENNEY & SON ESPLANADE GARAGE

Est. 1928

**ALL MAKES AND MODELS
SERVICED & REPAIRED**
Satisfaction Guaranteed

Sports Diving Gear & Marine Equipment Suppliers
Tel: 01642 483507





01642 989573



MEADOWVALE FUNERAL SERVICES

74 HIGH STREET, REDCAR, TS10 3DN www.meadowvalefs.co.uk

- Independent and Local
- Empathetic and Caring
- FULLY GUARANTEED Pre Payment Plans
- Funeral Director- Alistair Davies-Wilson—14 Years Experience
- Family Owned
- 24 Hour Service



TO ADVERTISE
YOUR BUSINESS IN
ST PETER'S
PARISH MAGAZINE
PLEASE CONTACT
THE CHURCH WARDENS



With a donation of £25 you can remember a special occasion
as well as contribute to the upkeep of St Peter's Church.

You can remember a loved one, celebrate a baptism,
a wedding or perhaps an anniversary.

A certificate will be issued to commemorate the occasion
and the name will be recorded.

Please complete the following for the attention of the Churchwardens

Name

Address

To commemorate

Cheques should be made out to PCC of Redcar Parish Church

PLEASE DETACH