

The Ministers: Revds Andrew Atkins & Graeme Dutton
westsectionministers@hotmail.co.uk

Editor: Ed Dodman
Tel: 2619152
ed.dodman@btinternet.com

MINISTERS' LETTERS

Hi folks

It seems a little strange writing a 'this is me', when I'm just beginning my 8th year in the circuit, but although many of you will know me by face, and some probably a bit better than that, this I hope will help you all know me a bit more.

I am originally from Hartlepool, so I'm sure some of you will want to ask me about monkey hanging. I am married to Vicky, a Deacon, who this September became District Evangelism Enabler for the Leeds District, having spent the last three years at Meeting Point in Leeds East. We have four children, Megan (19), Sam (18), Joel (14) and Eve (12).

I love being a dad and husband and all that entails. I enjoy football, though sadly my playing days are very restricted now. I enjoy watching both Sam and Joel play when I can. I love all sorts of music, reading, cinema, and, very importantly, eating, especially Indian food, and nothing more so than Vicky's Indian food. I am also a keen photographer.

In terms of some of what energises me in my role as a Presbyteral minister, I work regularly with recovering alcoholics, I write liturgies for communion, monologues and I am also part of the writing team for 'Roots' magazine which is used in many churches up and down the country. I am on the team of chaplains at St. Gemma's Hospice, covering 24 hr call out one week in about four. I especially like challenging and encouraging people to think more deeply and broadly about their faith and being creative in worship.

Well that's a bit of me in a nut shell, I hope we can learn more about each other as we journey together over the next 12 months.

Andrew

And maybe it seems even more strange that I should be introducing myself in the Methodist year in which I will be leaving the circuit. This September will see me starting my 5th and final year in the Leeds North East circuit and although we will, of course, be limited in our time journeying together I do hope that through the next year we will all have plenty of opportunity to grow with God.

LNE has been a wonderful place for us to start our family; we were married the weekend we moved into the manse! We have a gorgeous little girl, Mia, who we can all thank for my ordination service at Lidgett Park and a son due to arrive in November.

My playing days are not yet over! I still turn out in goal for St Bedes III's who play on Saturday afternoons in the Yorkshire Amateur League. If I'm not playing football on Saturdays, I'm watching or listening to how Birmingham are getting on. I even occasionally get to see The Blues in the flesh as I did at Elland Road last season (a fine 4-1 win for the away team!)

You can usually tell if I'm due to lead a service on a Sunday as when you arrive you'll see my motorbike parked in the car park.

I'm very keen on using technology in worship and using it well! In my preaching I like to relate The Gospel to current events and my own experiences and see myself as a bridge between 'Church' and the 'missing generation(s)'.

Looking forward to working with you all soon.

God Bless
Graeme

WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

02	10.30	Rev. Andrew Atkins	Holy Communion
	3.00	Roundhay	United/Circuit
Service	09	10.30 Mr. Peter Harper	
	6.30	Mr. John Summerwill	
16	10.30	Rev. Andrew Atkins	
	6.30	Rev. Andrew Atkins	Holy Communion

23	10.30	Rev. Mark Harwood	
	6.30	Rev. Graeme Dutton	
30	Harvest Festival		
	10.30	Rev. Graeme Dutton	Parade Service
	6.30	St Andrew's	Ecumenical Service

THANK YOU FROM THE HARPERS

Thank you so much to everyone who sent cards, flowers, gifts and enquired about my welfare following my knee replacement operation. Recovery hasn't been without its complications, but I have felt very well supported by so many people's thoughts and prayers.

Vivien

I would like to thank everyone who sponsored me for the Great North Swim. I really enjoyed the day despite the weather and the water temperature down to 14 degrees. I completed the swim in 47min 53 sec which I was very pleased with as I couldn't swim a mile 6 months ago. I raised a total of £790 the majority of which will go directly to SURF (Spinal Injury Unit Recreation Fund) at Pinderfields, and online donations will go to the Spinal Injuries Association. SURF will use the money to arrange trips for both inpatients and ex patients and also to help fund a mini bus to help them adjust to their life changing situation. Once again thank you for your support.

Helen

Thank you to all who heeded my appeal for unwanted knitting wool. I have received such generous quantities of all varieties of colour and shades to enable me to knit blankets for years to come! No more please – for a while! Thank you too giving support to all of us.

Peter

THE BIG BREAKFAST

This is at Church on Saturday October 6th, commencing at 9.30 a.m. (Note the change of time). All proceeds will go towards our new Church Project.

Jennifer Dalton

LADIES GROUP

The Ladies Group meet fortnightly on Thursdays at 7.45 p.m. in the Youth Hall. All are welcome. *(I guess it's probably best if you are female though).*

06 September Barbara Belsham 'Cambodia and Vietnam'

20 September Alun Pugh 'Leeds/Liverpool Canal'

2012/13 CHURCH PROJECT: SIMON ON THE STREETS

This is a reminder that from September our new church project is SIMON ON THE STREETS. This is a local charity operating in Leeds, Bradford and Huddersfield that focuses on homeless and rootless people with a history of rough sleeping. Simon offers street-based help to people with complex needs and troubled backgrounds who are not getting support elsewhere and encourages them to access services they desperately need and begin to make some positive changes to their lives. The charity does not get any public funding so fund-raising is an important part of the project but we also wish to promote better understanding of all the issues involved.

There will be more about Simon in the next Link and we will keep you informed about project events through the Link and the weekly notices. Offers or suggestions will be welcomed by the project group: Ruth & Gary Albiges, Liz & Stan Pearson, Val Faint and Fred Langley.

Fred Langley

SCIENCE AND RELIGION

Churches Together in Roundhay are planning a series of talks after Easter 2013 on the theme of Science and Religion. These will be open to anyone in the community who is interested.

What aspects of this topic do you think will arouse interest? Do you know of anyone who would be appropriate to contribute to these talks?

Would you be willing to be part of a planning group?

If you can help with any of these questions please contact **Barbara Belsham**

WHAT IS IT?



This picture was taken on a recent Church hike. Something is puzzling the merry throng. Peter Harper, who sent the picture in, thinks that they are wondering if they are at a bus stop. Have you any better ideas?

MORE APOLOGIES

Last month we published Chris Hatton's account of his walk from Land's End to John O'Groats in aid of charity. Unfortunately I also told you that he was Maggie Patchett's son whereas, as most of you know, he is Maggie's brother. Sorry Maggie, sorry Chris.

A BLATANT SPACE FILLER

You have all been so busy holidaying that you've forgotten to send in copy. . So to complete this page here is Ed's Movie Quiz. (standard: easy).

Who said “ .. in Italy for 30 years under the Borgias they had warfare, terror, murder, bloodshed. They produced Michaelangelo, Leonardo Da Vinci and the Renaissance. In Switzerland they had brotherly love, five hundred years of democracy and peace; and what did that produce... the cuckoo clock”?

ROUNDHAY TREFOIL GUILD - OPEN EVENING

The Roundhay branch of the Trefoil Guild are holding an Open Evening on Thursday 13th September at the home of Jacquei Kelly, 45 North Park Grove from 7:00pm.

Bring & Buy Stall, Quiz, Games, Raffle, Mystery Prizes. Cake Stall. Refreshments including home baked scones and cakes. Everyone welcome - bring a friend.

All monies raised to St. Gemma's.

What is the Trefoil Guild?

The Trefoil Guild is a branch of Girlguiding UK offering personal and social opportunities whilst supporting Guiding. We are an organisation of over 20,000 members mostly made up of women aged 18+ who have been or still are connected with Guiding.

What are our aims?

To live in the spirit of Guiding

To offer practical help to Girlguiding UK

To support Guiding worldwide

To carry the spirit of Guiding into the communities where we live

Further information please contact **Janet Mitchell Tel: 2669778**

CONTROVERSY CORNER

We've not had this for a while so here are a three quotes to start a discussion.

“All ideologies are relative: the only absolute is the torment that men inflict on each other”

Yergenia Ginsberg

“I was never aware of any option but to question everything”

Noam Chomsky

“Forgive your enemies but never forget their names”

John F. Kennedy

CHURCH PROJECT

This project year is almost at an end. It has been a memorable year with so many of you working so hard to raise money for the School for Deaf Children run by Sylvia Wright in Tiruvannamalai, South India

We have recently received a very generous donation of £600 from The Drama Group and I would like to say a very big thank you to them.

The final amount raised is going to be around £12,800 which is a really splendid total. I will write a full report of the year for next month's issue of The Link.

I am delighted to tell you that Sylvia will be at the morning service on Sunday 9th September to receive the cheque.

Very many thanks to all of you.

Barbara Dodman

OUR QUIZZES - SET BY GILLIAN CLEMENTS

Quiz 1. All the clues give rise to two words, the letters of which can be rearranged to form one word. All the solutions have something in common.

(Clue: Tasty!)

1. Was it a personal pronoun or a thick slice of cake? (1, 4)
2. The diminutive George owned a horse. (3, 4)
3. The article belongs to me. (3, 2)
4. The regal sounding Frenchman has several female horses. (3, 5)
5. A short time took a long time. (1, 3)
6. The man from Steps had a sin. (1, 4)
7. Leonard hid in the bog. (3, 3)

Quiz 2. All the clues give rise to two words, the letters of which can be rearranged to form one word. All the solutions have something in common.

(Clue: You may come across these during a country ramble.)

1. The American mother takes a long time. (3, 5)
2. Steal the amphibians. (4, 5)
3. Secure the edge. (4, 3)
4. I declare, what an ego! (3, 2)
5. The edge of the flat-bottomed boat. (3, 4)
6. The young animal had a golf club. (3, 6)
7. The professional was very mean. (3, 5)

PRAYER FOR CHANGE



This prayer appears in the magazines of Lidgett Park, St Andrew's and St Edmund's.

As we enjoy our abundance of wealth
We pray for the hungry nations of the world.
May they be freed from the yoke of oppression.

As we celebrate the joys of creation
We pray for the people who are denied their share.
May the earth and everything in it
Be for the benefit of all human beings.

As we benefit from international trade,
We pray for the producers and workers
Who are deprived of their just reward.
May all created goods flow freely for all.

A JULY TO REMEMBER?

Last month we told you that this year, July has 5 Fridays, 5 Saturdays and 5 Sundays. This apparently only happens once in every 823 years. This was very interesting but those of you who checked your calendars will have noticed it was also untrue. It actually happened in 2011 so at least there are only 821 years to wait for the next time. Humble apologies for this ridiculous error, but the weather in July was rubbish so having a weekend less was no great loss.

MORE JOLLY WALKERS



But where are all the men? Come on guys, The Olympics are over now it's time to stop being couch potatoes.

THANK YOU FROM ED

I am happy to tell you that I raised £84 for the Church Project from the sale of auriculas lovingly grown by myself.

Thank you to all of you who bought one.

Mind you auriculas are so beautiful that selling them is not easy; it puts me in mind of Fitzgerald –

“I often wonder what the vintners buy,
one half so precious as the goods they sell”

ANSWERS TO JULY QUIZ

Each clue provides two words which differ by one, two or three letters (eg ant, aunt [1], ant, plant [2], ant, antler [3]). The differing letters, when rearranged, make two Christian names to be found in the Church Directory.

1. Don't bob for this fruit in beer. (5, 3) [2]
ALE, APPLE = PP
2. I have a preference for a piece of that. (7, 4) [3]
PART, PARTIAL = IAL
3. This social class is pure. (5, 6) [1]
CASTE, CHASTE = H
4. If you wait on someone, you don't have to do it in this ignominious way. (5, 7) [2]
SERVE, SERVILE = IL
5. Do I see knickers covering the roof! (7, 8) [1]
PANTIES, PANTILES = L
6. The Conservative had an idea. (4, 6) [2]
TORY, THEORY = HE
7. I weary of everything. (4, 6) [2]
TIRE, ENTIRE = EN
PHILLIPA, HELEN

ANSWERS TO AUGUST QUIZ

Each clue provides two words which differ by one, two or three letters (eg ant, aunt [1], ant, plant [2], ant, antler [3]). The differing letters, when rearranged, make two Christian names to be found in the Church Directory.

1. Father has a big cuddly bear. (2, 5) [3]
PA, PANDA = AND
2. He scarpered down the airstrip. (7, 6) [1]
RUNAWAY, RUNWAY = A
3. The ex-US-president was involved in a surprise attack. (4, 6) [2]
BUSH, AMBUSH = AM
4. Toxophily took place under the curved structure. (7, 4) [3]
ARCHERY, ARCH = ERY
5. The wagon carried a map amongst other things. (4, 5) [1]
CART, CHART = H
6. A piece of earth in the sea. (4, 6) [2]
LAND, ISLAND = IS
7. The cat's fur. (3, 4) [1]
PET, PELT = L

AMANDA, SHIRLEY

A PRAYER OF CONTEMPLATION

O Christ, my Lord, again and again
I have said with Mary Magdalene,
'They have taken away my Lord
and I know not where they have laid him.'
I have been desolate and alone.
and thou hast found me again, and I know
that what has died is not thou, my Lord,
but only my idea of thee,
the image which I have made to preserve
what I have found, and to be my security.
I shall make another image, O Lord,
better than the last.
That too must go, and all successive images,
until I come to the blessed vision of thyself,
O Christ, my Lord.

George Appleton

CAPTIONS PLEASE REVISITED

Colin Watson tells us that what he was thinking at the time this picture was taken was "Obviously plenty of room left but I must pass on the fourth dessert".



The caption he suggests for the one below is "A delighted Kathy as she discovers her John chapter 2 verse 9 moment has arrived". Nice one Colin, but not, I fear, on Methodist premises.



AN EXTRA S AND A SHIFTED APOSTROPHE

Hi everyone, I hope you have all had a good summer and are just about recovered from Olympomania. I've got to admit that, although I totally disapproved of us wasting all our money on such an extravagance, I was totally hooked from start to finish.

There is an ancient Chinese curse "May you live in interesting times" and at Lidgett Park we are certainly going to be doing so in the next few years.

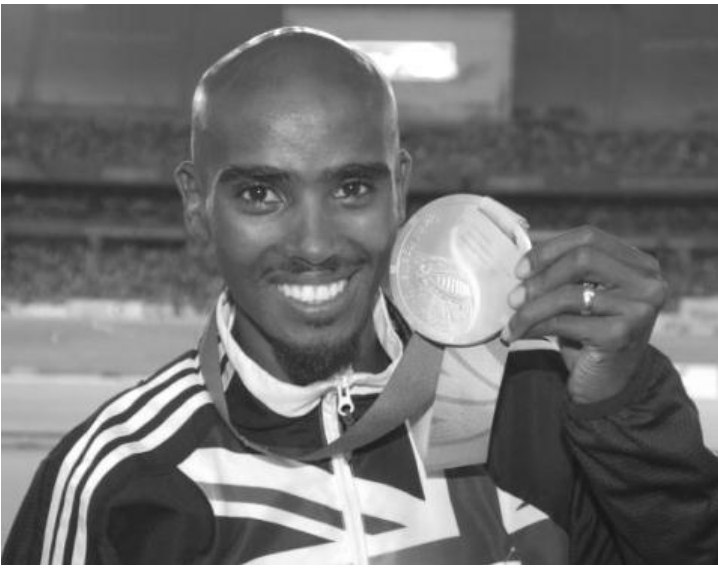
The only obvious changes to this month's Link are the names under the title, an apostrophe moving from Minister's to Ministers' and an S on the end of Letter.

But Lidgett Park has always had it's own minister and now we have a year coming up of having a share in a team ministry. And then we are going to be part of a new enlarged circuit. Interesting times indeed!

One thing is for sure, Lidgett is a caring, hard-working Church and we will all work together cheerfully. (Well apart from me, one of the ruder members of the Church calls me Mr Grumpy – when she isn't calling me Mr Mean).

So let's look forward to a busy and fruitful year and welcome Andrew and Graeme as they take over their new roles. May you both find your association with Lidgett to be a happy one.

Ed Dodman



*Well that's
more than
enough
pompous prose
for one month.
So here's a
picture to
make you
smile.*

*May all your
memories be
golden ones.*